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Page 1
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             IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
             FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
2
      CALEB BARNETT, et al.,
 3
             Plaintiffs,
                                       ) Case No.
             -vs-
                                       ) 3:23-cv-209-SPM
 5
      KWAME RAOUL, et al.,
6
             Defendants.
7
      DIANE HARREL, et al.,
8
             Plaintiffs,
9
                                       ) Case No.
                                       ) 3:23-cv-141-SPM
             -vs-
10
      KWAME RAOUL, et al.,
11
            Defendants.
12
      JEREMY W. LANGLEY, et al.,
13
             Plaintiffs,
14
                                       ) Case No.
             -vs-
                                       ) 3:23-cv-192-SPM
15
      BRENDAN KELLY, et al.,
16
             Defendants.
       _____
17
      FEDERAL FIREARMS LICENSEES OF
18
      ILLINOIS, et al.,
19
             Plaintiffs,
                                       ) Case No.
                                       ) 3:23-cv-215-SPM
20
             -vs-
21
      JAY ROBERT "JB" PRITZKER, et
      al.,
22
             Defendants.
2.3
        VIDEOCONFERENCE DEPOSITION OF JAMES RONKAINEN
24
                        August 2, 2024
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1	Page 2 The videoconference deposition of JAMES	Particular	age 4
	RONKAINEN, taken remotely before JUNE M. STEARNS,	2 EVANS & DIXON, LLC by	
		MS. KATHERINE FAY ASFOUR	
	CSR, RMR, and Notary Public, pursuant to the	3 MS. KERRY BANAHAN DAGESTAD	
	Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for the United	211 North Broadway, Suite 2500	
	States District Courts pertaining to the taking of	4 St. Louis, Missouri 63102	
	depositions, commencing at 10:04 a.m. Eastern Time	314.621.7755   314.621.3136 (fax)	
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8		kbanahan@evans-dixon.com	
9	* * * * *	6	
10			
11	There were present via videoconference at	on behalf of the Randolph County	
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2	MAAG LAW FIRM, LLC by	2 Witness: Page	
3	MR. THOMAS G. MAAG 22 West Lorena Avenue	3 JAMES RONKAINEN	
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11	Licensees of Illinois Plaintiffs;	EXHIBIT 2 128	
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15 16 17 18	312.814.3000 gretchen.helfrich@ilag.gov kathryn.muse@ilag.gov christopher.wells@ilag.gov on behalf of Defendants Attorney General Kwame Raoul, Governor Jay Robert "JB" Pritzker, and Director Brendan F. Kelly;	<ul> <li>NOTE: Exhibits were provided for inclusion with deposition transcripts.</li> </ul>	
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2 (Pages 2 - 5)

Page 6 Page 8 1 THE REPORTER: Before we proceed, I will 1 A Yes, I do. 2 2 ask all counsel to agree on the record that there Q And you understand that that is the same 3 is no objection to this Certified Shorthand 3 oath you would take if we were in a courtroom in 4 Reporter administering a binding oath to the 4 front of a judge? 5 witness remotely. 5 A Yes, ma'am. 6 Will all counsel state their agreement Q All right. June, the court reporter, is 7 taking down what's being said by everybody, and she 7 on the record, please. 8 MS. HELFRICH: No objection. 8 can't do that or she'll have a hard time doing it 9 MR. LOTHSON: No objection. 9 if we talk over each other. So I'm going to ask 10 MR. MAAG: No objection. 10 you to let me finish my questions, let me come all MR. BRADY: No objection. 11 the way to the end of the question, before you 11 12 MR. SIGALE: No objection. 12 answer, okay? 13 (Whereupon the witness was 13 A Okay. 14 14 Q And that's for two reasons. It's for duly sworn.) 15 THE REPORTER: Thank you. 15 June, but it's also so that we can be sure that 16 you're actually answering the question that I ask 16 Please proceed. 17 MS. HELFRICH: Thank you. 17 and not anticipating a different question. So I 18 JAMES RONKAINEN 18 will, likewise, try not to ask a new question until 19 you have finished answering, okay? 19 witness herein, called for examination, having been 20 first duly sworn via videoconference, was examined 20 A Okay. 21 21 and testified as follows: Q Now, we are both going to break that 22 **EXAMINATION** 22 rule, everybody always does, but as we go along 23 BY MS. HELFRICH: 23 I'll try to remind us both to do that and, believe 24 Q Good morning, Mr. Ronkainen. Thank you 24 me, June will remind us if she needs to. So just Page 7 Page 9 1 for being here today. 1 be aware that there might be interjections of that 2 I'm Gretchen Helfrich. I'm an 2 sort. 3 attorney with the Office of the Illinois Attorney 3 Mr. Lothson here is representing --4 General, and I'm going to be taking your deposition 4 will be speaking on behalf of the plaintiffs. What 5 that means is he may from time to time object to my 5 today. 6 A Okay. 6 questions. He's not going to, my questions are Q I represent the State defendants, 7 wholly unobjectionable, but he may object. 8 Governor Pritzker, Attorney General Raoul, and 8 MR. LOTHSON: Objection. 9 Director Kelly of the ISP. 9 BY MS. HELFRICH: 10 So I understand you've given 10 Q He may object, and if he does you will 11 depositions many times before; is that right? 11 answer the question anyway. It's not like in court A I have given depositions previously as an 12 where the judge will rule on the objection. 13 expert, as a corporate witness, and as a fact 13 So unless he specifically instructs 14 witness. 14 you not to answer the question, you're going to go 15 ahead and answer it, okay? 15 Q Now, have you given a deposition by Zoom? 16 A No, ma'am. This is my first time. 16 A Yes. Q Okay. Well, as you probably know from 17 Q If you don't understand a question, would 17 18 all of those depositions, I'm going to start by 18 you please ask me -- would you please let me know 19 going over some ground rules, and there will be 19 that you don't understand it, all right? 20 some extras that apply to Zoom specifically. 20 21 21 Q And if you answer a question I'm going to A Okay. Q So as you know you are, and I remind you, 22 assume that you understood it. Is that fair? 23 you are testifying under oath today. Do you 23 A Yes, that's fair. 24 understand that? 24 Q So this is a little bit personal, but I

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Page 10 Page 12 1 have to ask. Are you on any medication today that A Okay. 1 2 2 would impair your ability to give truthful Q So what I would like to do is I would 3 testimony? 3 like to ask you not to refer to those unless you 4 tell me that you're going to refer to them. 4 A No, ma'am, I am not. 5 Q Anything that would impair your ability 5 A Yes, ma'am. 6 to remember things accurately? Q So if you're drawing information from a 7 A No. 7 source other than your memory or your report, I'd Q Is there any other circumstance existing 8 like you to let me know that, okay? 9 today that would impair your ability to give A Okay. 10 truthful testimony or to remember things 10 Q If you are having any problems with the 11 accurately? 11 technology we're using today, please let me know 12 immediately and we will stop and fix it and make 12 A No, ma'am. 13 Q All right. So specifically to Zoom, 13 sure that June hears everything that we're saying, 14 since this is your first time we'll go over some 14 okay? 15 rules that pertain to Zoom. So you're in Kentucky. 15 A Okay. 16 I'm in Chicago. Other folks on this call are in 16 Q All right. Thanks. 17 lots of different places. The only way we can talk 17 Now the name of the lawsuit that 18 to each other while we're on the record is through 18 you're being deposed in today is Barnett versus 19 this screen, so that means that when we're on the 19 Raoul, Number 23-cv-209, pending in the U.S. 20 record the only way you're going to be able to talk 20 District Court for the Southern District of 21 Illinois. Are you aware of that? 21 to your attorney is to talk out loud. 22 You understand that? 22 A Yes. 23 23 Yes. And there are three other cases that have Α 24 Q Okay. Do you have any other applications 24 been consolidated with the Barnett case. Those are Page 11 Page 13 1 Harrel versus Raoul, 23-cv-141, Langley versus 1 open on your computer right now? A I do not. 2 Kelly, 23-cv-192, and Federal Firearms Licensees of 3 Illinois versus Pritzker, 23-cv-215. 3 Okay. Do you have your cell phone near 4 Are you aware that all four cases have 4 you? 5 been consolidated? 5 A I do not. It's in another room. A Yes, I am. Q Okay. I would ask you to keep it that 6 7 Q In part, consolidated in part. 7 way for the duration of the day, no other 8 And do you understand that the 8 applications, no cell phone. 9 A Understood. 9 deposition you are giving today may be used in all 10 10 four of those cases? Q All right. Thank you. 11 A Yes, I do. 11 Do you have any documents in front of 12 All right. Thank you. 12 you? A I have my rebuttal report as well as the 13 So that's it for the preliminaries. 14 catalogs that were referenced as part of my report. 14 Now, I'd like to start with some basic information 15 and definitions. In your report you use the term Q Okay. Catalogs, do you mean Gun Digest? A Gun Digest are actually soft copies. 16 modern sporting rifle and you abbreviate it MSR, 17 These are hard copies of catalogs from Remington, 17 correct? 18 DPMS, Bushmaster, and Advanced Armament Company or 18 A That is correct. 19 Q Can you define what you mean when you use 19 AAC. They're part of my file. 20 that term in your report? Q Understood, but in your report you didn't A I'm sorry. You broke up there, ma'am. 21 list those as materials that you reviewed except 21 22 Could you repeat that? 22 for the manufacturing report. Oh, yes, you did. Sorry; product 23 Q Sure. Can you tell me what you mean when 24 you use that term in your report? 24 catalogs. Gotcha. Sorry; my bad.

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- 1 A That term applies to AR-style rifles,
- 2 AK-style rifles, semiautomatic rifles in general.
- 3 So that's my understanding and my intention in the
- 4 use of that in the report.
- 5 Q Do you know, and I'm only asking if you
- 6 know, I'm not asking for a legal conclusion -- so
- 7 let me rephrase.
- 8 Is it your understanding or do you
- 9 have an understanding of whether the firearms that
- 10 are banned under the Protect Illinois Communities
- 11 Act -- I'm sorry. I'm saying this backwards.
- Would your definition of firearms
- 13 apply to all of the firearms banned under the
- 14 Protect Illinois Communities Act, if you know?
- 15 A I believe it does. I would have to go
- 16 back and look at the specifics regarding which
- 17 particular models are banned, but in my review
- 18 previously of that I believe modern sporting rifles
- 18 previously of that I believe modern sporting times
- 19 were pretty much completely within the category of
- 20 banned products in the state of Illinois.
- 21 Q Okay. Now as the term as you have just
- 22 defined it, AR-style rifles, AK-style rifles, and
- 23 semiautomatic rifles generally --
- 24 A Yes.

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- 1 Q -- is that the way the term was used when
- 2 you were the director of MSR at Remington?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Director of MSR product development.
- 5 A Yes, it was.
- 6 Q Okay. Does that category, pardon me if 7 this sounds weird, does that category include 8 pistols?
- 9 A In the fact that it's modern sporting
- 10 rifles, no, it does not. I understand that there
- 11 are pistols and handguns that are banned by the
- 12 particular law in Illinois as well as some
- 13 shotguns.
- 14 Q Okay. I understand. I'm not trying to
- 15 trip you up here. I'm just trying to understand
- 16 how you use the term.
- 17 So you would not include pistols in
- 18 your definition of MSR?
- 19 A You can have an AR-style firearm that is
- 20 a pistol, and it would include those. It's not
- 21 handguns such as, you know, Glocks, a conventional
- 22 pistol like that that -- I don't consider that to
- 23 be a rifle, but modern sporting rifles does include
- 24 AR-style pistols in my opinion.

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1 Q So when you or when Remington, for

- 2 example, when you were there, when Remington had to
- 3 report manufacturing numbers for rifles to the ATF,
- 4 you know, for those AFMER reports would it report
- 5 AR-style pistols as rifles?
- 6 A Those are reported separately as pistols,
- 7 I believe.
- 8 Q Okay.
- 9 A By the rules that are applicable for the
- 10 AFMER sheets that were supplied by manufacturers to
- 11 BATF.
- 12 Q Okay. Does modern sporting rifle as you
- 13 use the term include shotguns?
- 14 A It does not. There are some AK-style
- 15 firearms that fire shotshell projectiles. Those
- 16 potentially I would consider based on their pattern
- 17 and style, but in general shotguns utilize a
- 18 slightly different layout for the firearm itself.
- 19 Q Okay. Does the category of MSR as you
- 20 use the term include .50 caliber rifles?
- 21 A If they are of a semiautomatic operating
- 22 system, yes, it would.
- 23 Q So when you were at Remington and you
- 24 were the head of MSR product development were you

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- 1 overseeing the product development of pistols?
- 2 A Pistols in terms of what Remington did
- 3 were handguns and they were handled by a separate
- 4 director. If it was an AR-pattern pistol, that
- 5 would have fallen within my purview. As I recall
- 6 looking back on the development activities we had,
- 7 I don't recall doing any pistols that were AR-style
- 8 during my time period in that role, but the company
- 9 certainly had and sold those.
- 10 Q Had and sold pistols or had and sold
- 11 AR-15 style pistols?
- 12 A It had and sold AR-style pistols.
- 13 Q Okay. And did the product development of
- 14 any shotguns fall within your purview?
- 15 A We did not do any work on shotguns in an
- 16 AR style. Those were handled within a separate
- 17 group within the R&D department.
- 18 Q Okay. And what about .50 caliber rifles,
- 19 was that within your purview?
- 20 A It was. We did not offer any in
- 21 Remington, Bushmaster, DPMS, or AAC, any .50
- 22 caliber semiautomatic rifles. There were, I
- 23 believe, a bolt-action .50 caliber offered by
- 24 Bushmaster. That was our sole .50 caliber offering

1 that I'm aware of.

- 2 Q That wasn't within your purview there?
- 3 A That particular gun since it was for
- 4 Bushmaster it would have been. We didn't do any
- 5 development work on it. That was a design that was
- 6 in place when Bushmaster and Remington were
- 7 combined.
- 8 Q Okay. Are there any specific calibers or
- 9 cartridges that are part of the definition of MSR?
- 10 A Not that I'm aware of. A modern sporting
- 11 rifle can handle quite a large range of centerfire
- 12 ammunition, all the way from .204 Ruger, .223/5.56
- 13 NATO, .243 Winchester, .308 Winchester, up to and
- 14 including .338 Lapua Magnum.
- So there's a wide range of centerfire
- 16 calibers that can be there. There are versions of
- 17 MSRs that utilize .22 Long Rifle, which is rimfire
- 18 cartridge as well.
- 19 Q Okay. Would you say that your
- 20 understanding of the term MSR and the understanding
- 21 of MSR that was in place at Remington when you
- 22 worked there is an understanding shared in the
- 23 firearms market?
- 24 A Generally I would agree with that. There
- Page 19
- 1 may be certain people that have slightly different
- 2 interpretations of that, but I think that was
- 3 the -- the common term that was used through the
- 4 industry for that style of firearm.
- 5 Q Okay. And at its core we're talking
- 6 about AR-style rifles, AK-style rifles, or
- 7 semiautomatic rifles generally?
- 8 A In general, yes.
- 9 Q Okay. Thank you.
- MR. LOTHSON: And can I have one point of
- 11 clarification because Remington had semiautomatic
- 12 rifles that were not MSRs.
- 13 THE WITNESS: That is correct. There was
- 14 the Model 750 and previous to that was the Model
- 15 7400.
- 16 BY MS. HELFRICH:
- 17 Q Okay. I'm going to get into some
- 18 specifics about that --
- 19 A Okay.
- 20 Q -- later. Thank you, though.
- Okay. Now, I am also aware that
- 22 Remington, and I believe this would be Remington
- 23 Defense, produced a modular sniper rifle and that
- 24 is also abbreviated MSR; is that correct?

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  1 A The initials of that are MSR as well,
  - 2 yes, ma'am.
  - 3 Q Okay. When I use the term MSR today I
  - $4\,$  want you to understand that I mean modern sporting
  - 5 rifle, okay?
  - 6 A Understood, ma'am.
  - 7 O And if I mean modular sniper rifle I'll
  - 8 tell you, okay?
  - 9 A Okay.
  - 10 Q And if you mean modular sniper rifle when
  - 11 you say MSR please tell me, okay?
  - 12 A Yes, ma'am.
  - 13 Q Fair.
  - 14 Another term that you used in your
  - 15 report is AR platform. Can you say what you mean
  - 16 by AR platform?
  - 17 A AR platform is -- kind of refers to a
  - 18 general layout for the firearm's construction, a
  - 19 lower receiver assembly, an upper receiver assembly
  - 20 held together with detent pins. The functions
  - 21 within the AR-style platform, the trigger group is
  - 22 within the lower receiver and the bolt is within
  - 23 the upper receiver, the barrel is part of the upper
  - 24 receiver. So that's my interpretation of
- Page 21

- 1 AR style.
  - 2 There are some -- I take that back.
  - 3 Let's stick with that. I was going someplace that
  - 4 doesn't make any sense, so I apologize.
  - 5 Q That's okay.
  - 6 So do you use the terms AR platform
  - 7 and AR style interchangeably?
  - 8 A I can, and I probably did in my report.
  - 9 In my interpretation of that they are
  - 10 interchangeable terms for purposes of, you know, my
  - 11 understanding in describing the type of platform
  - 12 that, you know, I'm discussing.
  - 13 Q And what you just described, the lower
  - 14 receiver held with pins, trigger group in the lower
  - 15 receiver, bolt in the upper receiver, that could be
  - 16 AR platform or AR style?
  - 17 A AR platform or AR style. It's anything
  - 18 that follows the -- you know, the traditional AR
  - 19 pattern, if you will, for construction of a
  - 20 firearm.
  - 21 Q And when you say the traditional AR
  - 22 pattern, are you talking about a pattern based on
  - 23 the AR firearms that were designed at ArmaLite in
  - 24 the '50s?

A Yes. In overall terms, yes. There are

- 2 also modern sporting rifles that are based on other
- 3 operating systems. For instance, the AK platform
- 4 is one and then FALs are another. They -- there
- 5 are differences between the AR and the AK and the
- 6 FAL, and, you know, those -- we worked only on
- 7 really AR style or AR platform weapons at Remington
- 8 and Remington Defense, Bushmaster, DPMS, and AAC.
- Q So if I understand you, you just said all
- 10 of those companies made MSRs based on the AR
- 11 platform, not AK platform, not FAL platform?
- 12 A That is correct.
- 13 Q Okay. And what does AR stand for?
- 14 A Automatic rifle is my understanding. We
- 15 could go back and look at what ArmaLite used for
- 16 that, but, you know, it's two initials. Lots of
- 17 people, I think, have applied different names to
- 18 what those are. We just kind of ignored whatever
- 19 they might have connoted and it was AR for us.
- 20
- Q Okay. So you don't care what it stands
- 21 for?

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1

- 22 A Yes, ma'am, that's correct.
- 23 Q All right. Now the -- specifically the
- 24 AR -- Strike that.

Page 23

- When you say AR platform do you mean
- 2 or AR style do you mean AR-15?
- 3 A AR-15 and AR-10.
- 4 Okay.
- A Which is a larger version. It's a scaled
- 6 version of that.
- 7 Q And those were both designed in the '50s
- 8 at ArmaLite, correct?
- 9 A I believe that is correct.
- 10 Q And they were designed in response to
- 11 specifications from the military, correct?
- A They were designed at the behest of the
- 13 military. I'm not certain what exact
- 14 specifications were provided to ArmaLite and to any
- 15 other companies that were providing example weapons
- 16 when the government was looking for a new -- new
- 17 firearm.
- 18 Q Okay. They were designed for the
- 19 military?
- A The original design for those was as a
- 21 weapon for the soldier to carry, which is different
- 22 than what civilians typically use. By the National
- 23 Firearms Act ownership of fully automatic firearms
- 24 is restricted and it's based on, you know, law.

- Page 22 Page 24 1 Anything produced after 1986, March or May of that
  - 2 time, is not allowed to be possessed. Guns
  - 3 produced prior to that date are transferable with a
  - 4 tax stamp and with a background check through the 5 BATF.
  - Q And the AR-15 that was developed at
  - 7 ArmaLite in the '50s, that was eventually adopted
  - 8 by the military as the M16 sometime in the first
  - 9 half of the 1960s?
  - 10 A I believe that is the chronology of what
  - 11 took place. There were upgrades that were done
  - 12 based on experience in the field with the weapon
  - 13 system to improve the reliability. Again, it's out
  - 14 there in the public as to exactly all the different
  - 15 things that were done to the original design that
  - 16 Eugene Stoner did.
  - 17 Q Are you talking about upgrades that
  - 18 happened before the military adopted the rifle or
  - 19 afterwards?
  - 20 A I believe it was afterwards.
  - 21 O Okay.
  - 22 A They originally fielded the gun. In use
  - 23 they identified certain shortcomings, and they
  - 24 added design modifications to that in order to
  - 1 improve the performance of the firearm in the
  - 2 application they had there, which was, you know,
  - 3 fighting a war.
  - 4 Q Okay. And then the AR-15 was initially
  - 5 sold on the civilian market as a semiautomatic by
  - 6 Colt, right?
  - 7 A I believe that's correct, yes.
  - 8 Okay.
  - A There may have been others, other -- they
  - 10 may have gone through another channel, another
  - 11 company may have been involved. Colt was the large
  - 12 producer of those for the U.S. military. There may
  - 13 have been other companies involved with it as well,
  - 14 though, in the commercialization for the civilian
  - 15 market.
  - 16 Q Okay. I want to ask you about the AK
  - 17 platform. What does AK stand for, first of all?
  - 18 A It is a Russian term, and I do not know
  - 19 what -- you know, what the specific Russian name is
  - 20 for it. It was designed by Kalashnikov. The
  - 21 initials, again, I know what the gun looks like,
  - 22 but they're Russian words and their English
  - 23 equivalents I do not know.
  - 24 Q Would you agree that the "K" stands for

1 Kalashnikov or Kalashnikova?

- 2 A It could. It could.
- 3 Q Okay. And the AK was designed by
- 4 Kalashnikov for the Russian military in the 1940s;
- 5 does that sound right?
- 6 A I believe that is the time frame that the
- 7 gun was developed in, yes.
- 8 Q And it was an automatic weapon as
- 9 developed for the military?
- 10 A Yes, I believe so.
- 11 Q And it is now -- AK-style or AK-platform
- 12 rifles are now sold on the civilian market in
- 13 semiautomatic versions, right?
- 14 A Yes. They're only available in
- 15 semiautomatic versions.
- 16 Q Can you tell me what constitutes the AK
- 17 platform in the way you did for the AR platform
- 18 just a few minutes ago?
- 19 A My familiarity with the AK platform is
- 20 obviously much less than what the AR platform is.
- 21 Again, it's a firearm that has an upper receiver
- 22 and a lower receiver. It's held together, you
- 23 know, with pins so that it can be disassembled and
- 24 maintenance can be conducted on it.

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- 1 Adams Arms has utilized that and there are several
- 2 others as well.
- 3 And the ACR from its inception was a
- 4 gas piston operated, you know, firearm similar in
- 5 pattern to an AR but utilizing different
- 6 construction methods. The upper receiver was
- 7 primarily an extrusion with a trunnion to hold the
- 8 barrel versus, you know, on an AR it's a forged
- 9 receiver that's machined and then the barrel is
- 10 mounted directly to it. So the mechanics are
- 11 slightly different, at least in terms of the way
- 12 the firearm is constructed.
- 13 Q Okay. This isn't quite the order I meant
- 14 to go in, but since we're here at the ACR I want to
- 15 ask you some more questions about that, if I can.
- So it's my understanding that the
- 17 firearm that eventually became the Remington ACR
- 18 started life as a firearm produced by Magpul?
- 19 A That is correct. The design was
- 20 originated by Magpul. The rights to the design for
- 21 production were purchased by Bushmaster, and then
- 22 Remington and Bushmaster became partners, whatever,
- 23 you know, basically we were owned by the same
- 24 company, Freedom Group, and Remington Defense

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- 1 It utilizes a gas piston system as
- 2 opposed to the direct impingement system utilized
- 3 on the AR. So the gas is not entering the
- 4 internals of the bolt carrier group as it is on the
- 5 AR, it's pushing against the front of a piston, and
- 6 so it utilizes gas from the fired round that's bled
- 7 off to operate the action but it's not by directing
- 8 the gas back into inside the bolt as it is on the
- 9 AR platform. It's done into a piston and it
- 10 operates the action that way.
- 11 Q So help me understand, it's my
- 12 understanding that Remington Defense manufactured
- 13 some rifles that had a gas piston system; is that
- 14 right?
- 15 A Yes, we did.
- 16 Q If I'm remembering right, the Remington
- 17 ACR had a gas piston system?
- 18 A The ACR had a gas piston system as well
- 19 as the R5.
- 20 Q Okay. But you would not describe those
- 21 as AK platform?
- 22 A No, those the -- the R5 was an adaptation
- 23 of the AR platform to utilize a gas piston, which
- 24 other companies have done. In particular I think

- 1 became involved with the use of that platform then
- 2 potentially as a weapon for use by U.S. military.
- 3 Q And the weapon that was developed for use
- 4 by the U.S. military was a select-fire rifle?
- 5 A Yes, ma'am, it was.
- 6 Q When it started at Magpul it was a
- 7 semiautomatic; is that correct?
- 8 A I would have to go back and look and see
- 9 if there's any documentation. It could have. It
- 10 could have been, you know, the intent for a full
- 11 auto fire may or may not have been there. I don't
- 12 have personal information on that to be able to
- 13 answer the question for you. I'm sorry.
- 14 Q Okay. When it was at Bushmaster or when
- 15 Bushmaster got it and started selling it which,
- 16 correct me if I'm wrong, they sold it as the
- 17 Bushmaster ACR?
- 18 A They did sell it as the Bushmaster ACR,
- 19 and it was a semiautomatic only.
- 20 Q And then Remington modified the
- 21 Bushmaster ACR to create the Remington ACR for the
- 22 military?
- 23 A Yes. We actually worked somewhat early
- 24 on in the program in conjunction with Bushmaster on

8 (Pages 26 - 29)

Page 30

- 1 that, but eventually we assumed responsibility for
- 2 the Remington ACR within the Remington Defense 3 group.
- 4 Q Okay. I'm going to ask you some more
- 5 questions later about the organization of the
- 6 companies because it's a little confusing and a
- 7 little bit dynamic so we'll try to pin that down a
- 8 little later, but let me go back to some questions
- 9 about you and your background.
- 10 A Okay.
- 11 Q You have a degree in mechanical
- 12 engineering?
- 13 A Yes, ma'am.
- 14 Q And where did you get that?
- 15 A University of Minnesota.
- 16 Q Now, can you describe what mechanical
- 17 engineering is as opposed to other kinds of
- 18 engineering?
- 19 A Mechanical engineering as a field is a
- 20 fairly broad one. It can involve a lot of things
- 21 that are actually mechanical. It also takes into
- 22 account a lot of things that are thermal; for
- 23 instance, HVAC systems, heating/cooling, things of
- 24 that nature.

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- 1 My particular interest in the areas of
- 2 study I did were in mechanical design, so machinery
- 3 and things of that nature as opposed to the thermal
- 4 sciences or other areas within mechanical
- 5 engineering.
- 6 Q Okay. I believe you got a bachelor's in
- 7 mechanical engineering from the University of
- 8 Minnesota?
- 9 A Yes, I did.
- 10 Q Did you get any other degrees?
- 11 A I did not.
- 12 Q Okay. So by training you are an
- 13 engineer?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 O You are not a historian?
- 16 A No.
- 17 Q You're not a historian of firearms?
- 18 A No, other than just personal interest.
- 19 It's not my background as a historian. As you
- 20 said, I'm a mechanical engineer.
- 21 Q And you're not here today as a firearms
- 22 historian?
- A No, ma'am, just by my own personal
- 24 recollections. I claim no expertise in that area

1 other than, you know, the little bit I do know.

- 2 Q Okay. And no formal training as a social
- 3 scientist?
- 4 A No, ma'am.
- 5 Q No formal training as a statistician or
- 6 data analyst?
- 7 A I have done a lot of data analysis as
- 8 part of my job and use of statistics to analyze
- 9 test results and, you know, items of that nature.
- 10 So, yes, I have done work with statistics. Am I
- 11 trained specifically in that? No, but it's
- 12 something I utilized in my job.
- 13 Q Are you here today as an expert in data
- 14 analysis or statistics?
- 15 A As an expert, no, ma'am. I'm here as an
- 16 expert on firearms.
- 17 Q Okay. Do you have any training in survey
- 18 methodology?
- 19 A I do not.
- 20 Q Okay. Would it be fair, then, to
- 21 characterize your training as engineering and your
- 22 expertise as the firearms industry during the
- 23 period in which you worked in the firearms
- 24 industry?

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- 1 A I would say that characterizes the core
- 2 of what I do and what I know. As I said, data
- 3 analysis was part of what I did on my job. I
- 4 wasn't strictly design. It was analyzing test
- 5 results and understanding how things went. Those
- 6 tools apply themselves to areas outside of just
- 7 straight-up design and test results. I've also
- 8 been trained in Six Sigma by Remington and the
- 9 Freedom Group.
- So I have some familiarity with it and
- 11 beyond what you normally would. In terms of what
- 12 my day-to-day job is and what I do, it is not data
- 13 analysis but I do have --
- 14 Q Can you explain --
- 15 A Go ahead.
- 16 Q Can you explain what Six Sigma is for the
- 17 record?
- 18 A Six Sigma is a statistical methodology
- 19 for analyzing data to understand interrelated
- 20 effects and it allows a more -- a more rapid means
- 21 of arriving at an optimal point for a given system
- 22 where many factors are in play. It allows you to
- 23 do tests that are efficient and essentially points
- 24 you in the right direction and gets you to the

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- 1 finish line for an optimal design more quickly than
- 2 traditional one-factor-at-a-time type of testing.
- Q So Six Sigma, it's a method? 3
- 4 A It's a methodology and, again, it
- 5 involves a very broad area. It can include lean
- 6 manufacturing and different things like that. The
- 7 specific areas where I worked were within
- 8 statistical analysis and optimization via design of
- 9 experiments.
- Q Okay. And that was training you got from
- 11 your employer or through your employer?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q Okay. Your current employment, you say
- 14 in your CV you are the owner and managing director
- 15 at Boundary Oak Enterprises, LLC; is that correct?
- 16 A That is correct.
- 17 Q Now, is that named after the tree on the
- 18 Lincoln farm?
- A You got it, ma'am. Very good. I live
- 20 about -- I'm about two miles from Lincoln's
- 21 birthplace. So it was an appropriate name, I felt,
- 22 and it wasn't taken when I went to register my
- 23 business, so I took it.
- 24 Q Okay. And what does Boundary Oak

- 1 two.
- 2 Q Okay. Other than Mr. Lothson and his law

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- 3 firm, are your other clients all firearms
- 4 manufacturers?
- 5 A The other clients are, yes.
- Q Okay. Are you familiar with the National
- 7 Shooting Sports Foundation?
- A Yes, I am. In fact, my business is a
- 9 member of the NSSF.
- 10 Q Oh, that was my next question.
- So today when I use the NSSF I mean 11
- 12 the National Shooting Sports Foundation, okay?
- 13 A Okay.
- 14 Q All right. So your company is a member.
- 15 Are you personally a member?
- 16 A Businesses are allowed to join,
- 17 individuals are not. So Boundary Oak Enterprises,
- 18 LLC, is the member within the NSSF. So yes. It's
- 19 my business, not myself.
- 20 Q Okay. Have you or your business -- other
- 21 than membership dues, have you or your business
- 22 ever been donors to the NSSF?
- 23 A We have donated to their political action
- 24 committee and other than the I think once or twice

- 1 Enterprises, LLC, do?
- 2 A Boundary Oak Enterprises, LLC, does
- 3 contract firearms design work for smaller firearms
- 4 companies that don't have the engineering staff to
- 5 do product design or to supplement companies that
- 6 do have it, as well as I do litigation support for
- 7 expert witness work, corporate witness work, and
- 8 fact witness work as needed.
- Q How many employees does your company 10 have?
- 11 A I am the only employee.
- 12 Q Okay. How many clients do you have?
- 13 A I probably have four or five. Right now
- 14 confidentiality agreements in our contracts don't
- 15 permit the disclosure of who they are. Obviously I
- 16 am working with Andy and his law firm, Swanson,
- 17 Martin & Bell, but aside from that I'm really not
- 18 able to disclose. I'm sorry.
- 19 Q Okay. No, that's fine. I understand
- 20 that.
- 21 The other you said four or five
- 22 clients right now?
- 23 A I've had four or five clients
- 24 historically. Right now I'm working with I believe

- Page 37 1 we did that also attended the SHOT Show which
- 2 requires payment of a fee to attend, and aside from
- 3 the annual membership dues, no.
- Q Okay. Cumulatively do you know how much
- 5 you have donated other than SHOT Show attendance
- 6 and dues to the NSSF?
- 7 A I think \$250. That's what I remember is
- 8 somewhere in that range. It's 200 to \$250 total
- 9 over the life of my business, so seven years.
- 10 Q Okay. Are your clients, any of your
- 11 clients, members of NSSF?
- A I believe they are. I would have to do a
- 13 little bit of investigating to confirm that,
- 14 though.
- 15 Q Okay. You believe -- let me put it this
- 16 way. The firearms manufacturers who are your
- 17 clients, it is your belief that all of those
- 18 companies are members of NSSF?
- 19 A I believe so.
- 20 Q Okay. And so what percentage of your
- 21 income let's say over the last five years has come
- 22 from clients who you believe are members of NSSF?
- 23 A Probably off, you know, a
- 24 back-of-the-envelope calculation maybe 75 or 80

Page 38	Page 40
1 percent.	1 23-cv-209?
2 Q And I know this is intrusive, but how	2 A Yes, ma'am.
3 much income is that roughly?	3 MS. HELFRICH: Okay. So I'd like that
4 A Oh, gosh. How many years are we talking?	4 marked as Exhibit 1, please.
5 Q Let's say five.	5 (Document was marked Exhibit 1
6 A 350, \$400,000 maybe. I'd have to	6 for identification.)
7 actually go back and look, Gretchen. I don't have	7 BY MS. HELFRICH:
8 that information at my fingertips. I can certainly	8 Q Here you say in the past four years I
9 go back into my accounting system and look.	9 have provided testimony in the following matters as
Ballpark it's that. You know, given	10 either a corporate witness or a firearms expert,
11 it's a kind of off-the-top-of-my-head thing it	11 and then you list four cases, right?
12 could be lower, it could be higher. I don't put a	12 A Yes.
13 lot of faith in exactly what that number is I guess	13 Q Okay. Olinick versus Remington is the
14 would be the way I'd put it.	14 first one, Federal District Court in Pennsylvania.
15 Q Okay.	15 Were you an expert witness there or a corporate
16 A I believe it's about that, but, again, I	16 witness?
17 need to confirm.	17 A I was a corporate witness in that
18 Q But you're relatively confident that it's	18 particular case.
19 75 to 80 percent of your income?	19 Q So you were a witness on behalf of
20 A In years past it has been, yes.	20 Remington?
21 Q Okay. I'd like to talk to you about your	21 A Remington and DuPont actually, DuPont and
22 work as an expert witness, as a witness in general.	22 SGPI, the predecessor for you know, basically
23 You listed four cases in your expert report in	23 the company that sold Remington to the investment
24 which you had been deposed or given testimony or	24 bankers based on the time period that the firearm
Page 39	Page 41
1 sorry. Let me see.	1 in this particular case was produced.
2 Okay. You know what? Let's do this	2 Q And so did your testimony relate to the
3 now.	3 time you were employed by DuPont?
4 A Okay.	4 A It was actually as a corporate witness
5 MS. HELFRICH: June, can you let me share	5 and talking about documents that, you know, were
6 screen?	6 contemporary with my employment all the way back to
7 THE REPORTER: Yes.	7 ones that were generated well before I was born.
8 BY MS. HELFRICH:	8 Q Okay. What was the case about?
9 Q Okay. Okay. Mr. Ronkainen, can you see	9 A It was a claimed negligent discharge
10 a document that says Rebuttal Report of James	10 where a young boy was injured.
11 Ronkainen?	11 Q What was the firearm involved?
12 A Yep. It's kind of small, but if I lean	12 A It was a Model 700.
13 ahead I can read it.	13 Q And do you recall the substance of your
14 Q Let me roll it up. How's that?	14 testimony? Can you summarize that for me?
15 A That's better.	15 A It was basically just going over and
16 Q Okay. I'm going to scroll through this	16 interpreting, describing the documents that the
17 document, and I'm going to ask you to take a look	17 plaintiff's lawyer presented with regard to the
18 at it while I scroll and tell me if you recognize	18 development of the product and, you know, related
19 this document. I'm happy to scroll all the way	19 to, you know, that litigation up through the time
20 through if you want me to.	20 of production of that firearm. I believe the
21 A Based on page 1 I recognize this document	21 firearm was produced in the 1970s in that case, so,
22 as my report, my rebuttal report.	21 firearm was produced in the 1970s in that case, so, 22 again, it was an older gun.
22 as my report, my rebuttal report.	22 again, it was an older gun.

11 (Pages 38 - 41)

Page 42 Page 44 1 700 is a bolt-action firearm. 1 A Yes, ma'am. 2 2 Q Bolt-action. Q And in that case were you an expert or 3 The second case is Scott v. Remington, 3 corporate witness? 4 Federal District Court in Alabama. Do you remember A I was a corporate witness. That was a 5 that case? 5 Model 7, Remington Model 7, bolt-action rifle that A Yes, ma'am. 6 was in dispute in that case. 7 7 Q Were you an expert or a corporate Q Was that also a negligent discharge case? 8 witness? 8 A Yes, it was. 9 9 A I was a corporate witness in that case as Q And you were a corporate -- you were a 10 well. 10 30(b)(6) -- well, that was a state court. Were you 11 Q And for which corporation? 11 the equivalent of a 30(b)(6) witness in that case? 12 A For Remington. 12 A I believe that's what you would consider 13 Q And when you say a corporate witness both 13 it, yes. 14 in this case and the previous case, do you mean 14 Q All right. And that was on behalf of 15 that you were giving testimony on behalf of the 15 Remington? 16 corporation? 16 A Yes. 17 17 A Yes, ma'am. MR. LOTHSON: And just for clarification, 18 Q Okay. So you were what's called a 18 it was actually on behalf of DuPont and a 19 30(b)(6) witness? Are you familiar with that term? 19 subsidiary of DuPont called Sporting Goods A Yes, I am, and that was the role I played 20 Properties, Inc. Remington was also a defendant at 21 in those two cases. 21 one time in the Clay matter but has been dismissed. 22 Q Okay. And what was Scott v. Remington 22 BY MS. HELFRICH: 23 about? 23 Q Is that consistent with your 24 A That was a Model 770 bolt-action rifle. 24 understanding, Mr. Ronkainen? Page 43 Page 45 1 an accidental discharge where a young teenaged girl 1 A Yes, it is. 2 was killed as the gun was being lowered from a deer 2 Q Okay. Is that case ongoing; do you know? A Clay is ongoing. There's been a decision 3 stand. Q And you said negligent discharge case? 4 offered in Scott. I believe Olinick may have come 4 A That's what I believe how it would be 5 to resolution. I'm not certain of that, so Andy 6 characterized, yes. 6 could provide the details on that with better 7 Q Or the allegation was negligent 7 specificity than me. 8 Q Okay. Well, we'll talk to Andy some 8 discharge? 9 A That was the allegation, yes. 9 other time. I want to talk to you today. 10 Q Okay. And what was the substance of your 10 MR. LOTHSON: I can provide incredible 11 testimony? 11 details on these cases, but I'm not giving a 12 A It was, again, as a corporate witness, 12 deposition today. 13 MS. HELFRICH: I look forward to it. 13 30(b)(6). 14 Q Talking about the characteristics of the 14 BY MS. HELFRICH: 15 firearm or what? Q The last case is Teague v. Remington, A No, not so much. That was covered by the 16 Federal District Court in Montana. Do you remember 17 expert in the case and the particular findings of 17 that case? 18 that firearm. Mine was more as the corporate A Yes. That was a Model 700 claimed 18 19 negligent discharge, involved the death of a 19 representative to discuss other documents related 20 to -- you know, other corporate documents related 20 young -- I believe a 15-year-old boy in the state 21 to the case. 21 of Montana. 22 Q Okay. The third case is Clay v. Q And expert or corporate? 23 Remington, and this is state court in Alabama. Do 23 A Corporate witness in that one and maybe 24 you remember that case? 24 as a fact witness as well. I'd have to go back and

12 (Pages 42 - 45)

Page 46 Page 48 1 check, but it was not as the expert in that 1 I believe ultimately Remington was dismissed from 2 particular case. 2 the case, and what eventually happened with the Q Okay. So -- and corporate witness on 3 result of that after the dismissal I didn't follow 3 4 behalf of Remington? 4 any of the particulars on that case. A In that case it would have been -- that Okay. Have you provided expert reports 6 would have been DuPont/SGPI, I believe, based on 6 in any other cases that you didn't list here? 7 the production date of the firearm in question A There's one additional case, state of 8 there. 8 Louisiana, it's Baldwin. It's a Remington Model 11 9 Q Okay. You also filed an expert report in 9 autoloading shotgun case. The gentleman was 10 a case called Tosseth v. Remington. Do you 10 operating the firearm in a method that was unsafe 11 remember that case? 11 and had a discharge and lost part of his hand 12 A Yes. 12 because it was over the muzzle of the gun as he was 13 Q That was in North Dakota? 13 demonstrating its operation to his hunting 14 Yes. Α 14 partners. 15 Q And you were -- I believe you were an 15 Q Okay. And were you an expert on behalf 16 expert witness in that case, not a corporate 16 of Remington? 17 witness, right? 17 A Yes. And that would probably fall 18 A Yeah. That was outside of the four-year 18 underneath Remington slash -- you know, it's the 19 period we listed here, but, yes, I was the expert 19 DuPont/SGPI entity given the production date on 20 on that. 20 that firearm was the early 1900s, nineteen teens. 21 Q Yes, yes. No, I understand. You weren't 21 It might have been 1911. It might have been 1917. 22 required to disclose it. 22 I'd have to go back and review my report and see 23 A Yep. 23 what the -- you know, what the serial numbers 24 When was that case? 24 showed in terms of when it was made, but it was a Page 47 Page 49 A Pardon? Could you repeat that? 1 very old gun. I believe it was about -- it was a 1 2 O When was that case? 2 hundred years old when I examined it. Q Okay. I understand that, but what I'm 3 A 2018 or '19. I'd have to go back and 4 look in my records to honestly see. It's been a 4 asking is who engaged you as an expert? Was it 5 while. 5 Remington? Q Okay. And you were an expert on whose MR. LOTHSON: I'll object just from the 6 6 7 behalf? Who engaged you? 7 standpoint of my law firm engaged Mr. Ronkainen. A Remington engaged me in that particular 8 THE WITNESS: That's correct. Swanson, 8 9 case. 9 Martin & Bell engaged me on that particular case. 10 Q And what was the substance of that case? 10 BY MS. HELFRICH: A It was a .22 pistol that was produced by 11 Q Was your -- all right. I would like to 12 Beretta that had a misfire using, I believe, 12 ask you some questions now about your patents that 13 Remington ammunition, and my job in that was to 13 you invented or your inventions that you patented I 14 examine the gun and provide an expert witness 14 guess is probably the better way to put it. 15 report on behalf of Remington as to what I believe 15 A Okay. 16 happened in that particular case. 16 Q According to your CV you are an inventor 17 Q Remington manufactured the ammunition? 17 or co-inventor on nine U.S. patents; does that 18 sound right? 18 A Yes. Q Was there an allegation that the 19 A That sounds correct. 20 ammunition had malfunctioned or that was the cause 20 Q And you say on your CV various foreign 21 of the problem? 21 patents. Do you have a number roughly?

13 (Pages 46 - 49)

A I do not. I'd have to actually go onto

23 the European patent website and search and see. I

24 know that we sought intellectual property

22

A It was indeterminate at the time that the

23 suit was filed, and it was Remington ammunition

24 used in a Beretta pistol. Both parties were sued.

Page 50 Page 52 1 protection for several of the U.S. patents that 1 time one of the initiatives was converting the 2 were granted. I don't have an answer as to whether 2 ignition of firearms from mechanical percussion, 3 striking a conventional primer, to being able to 3 or not we actually were able to achieve a patent 4 issuance on all of them or, you know, which ones 4 initiate the round with an electronically sensitive 5 or an electrically sensitive primer where a pulse 5 exactly. I'd have to look. Q So are the foreign patents that you have, 6 of a given voltage and amperage for a certain 7 these are patents related to the same inventions 7 period of time would ignite the primer as opposed 8 that you have the U.S. patents for? 8 to the impact of the firing pin on the primer cup A Yes, ma'am. 10 Q Okay. So are there any other inventions 10 The patents we have are with regard to 11 that you have patents for that are not listed in 11 the firing system and the particular firearm where --12 your -- in the U.S. patents you list in your CV? 12 the aspects of the firearm of that that were unique 13 A No, ma'am. 13 and worthy of seeking intellectual property 14 Q Okay. So I took a look at the patents, 14 protection. 15 and some of the patents are assigned to Remington 15 Q So you said that this was in the '90s and 16 Arms Company; does that sound right? 16 there was a push for new technology; am I A That would be the maj -- yeah, they 17 characterizing that correctly? 18 should all be assigned to various corporate forms 18 A Yeah. Yeah. New technology was there 19 of the Remington Arms Company depending on when 19 and it was just, you know, one thing that they 20 they were issued. 20 said, hey, you know, could we have a firearm that 21 Q Some were assigned to a company called RA 21 rather than being initiated via percussion as they 22 Brands, LLC. Can you tell me what that is? 22 conventionally had been would it be possible to do A I believe that was a legal entity that 23 one that was initiated with an electrical primer. 24 was set up by our corporate company. Why they did 24 So there were patents with regard to Page 51 Page 53 1 the firearm itself, which I'm part of; there are 1 it, I'm an engineer, not a lawyer, but there was 2 a -- they felt there was a legal reason for doing 2 also separate ones for the electronics and the 3 that. I don't know what that particular reason 3 control aspects of it; and then there are patents 4 as well for the ammunition, specifically the primer 4 was, but RA Brands is one. There may be others 5 that's electronically sensitive, that I'm not part 5 that are listed as assigned to Remington Arms. 6 of. You know. I'd have to look at each one 7 Q So it was a different primer? 7 individually, and why they had the different 8 A It was a different primer. 8 corporate structures I'm not privy to why that was. Q From a traditional. Traditional primer 10 you'd use in a firing pin type of situation? 10 Q That's fine, but RA Brands is a -- RA 11 A Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am. As I described, 11 Brands, LLC, is an entity within the Remington 12 it's one that was initiated with an electrical 12 corporate family? 13 impulse versus a mechanical impact. 13 A Yes, ma'am, I believe so. Q Okay. These patents are dated from 1996, 14 Q So was there a specific reason in this 15 time period why Remington or any other firearms 15 the earliest is 1996, the latest is 2013, so these 16 were all from when you worked at Remington? 16 manufacturer was looking for new technologies? 17 A That is correct. 17 What I mean by that is was there a niche to fill in 18 Q All right. Several of them relate to 18 the market? Was there some other -- you know, I 19 electronic firearms. Can you explain what that 19 know everybody is always trying to develop new 20 products, but was there a specific push behind this 20 means? 21 one? 21 A In the mid to late 1990s after the sale

14 (Pages 50 - 53)

A The primary thrust behind this product

23 was the ability to initiate the round more quickly24 than you could with a mechanical system. There's a

22

22 of Remington Arms from DuPont to Clayton, Dubilier

24 technologies and new firearm products. During that

23 & Rice there was a push for developing new

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- 1 term called lock time that's utilized in the
- 2 firearms industry where when the trigger is pulled
- 3 and the mechanism of the trigger releases the
- 4 firing pin to strike the primer, the period of time
- 5 from when it's released to when it's impacted and
- 6 set off is called lock time.
- 7 And on a good bolt-action rifle that
- 8 can be about three milliseconds, which, you know,
- 9 for all intents and purposes is very quick, but
- 10 during that three-thousandths of a second your
- 11 firearm is moving from where it was when you pulled 11
- 12 the trigger and released it, so there's the
- 13 possibility that you could have an excursion of the
- 14 barrel and where you're pointing it a slight amount
- 15 from where you intended to have it. The electronic
- 16 ignition system that we developed basically cut the
- 17 lock time down to three-millionths of a second. So
- 18 it was, I think, three orders of magnitude faster.
- So there would be the opportunity for
- 20 less excursion of the firearm's muzzle where you're
- 21 pointing it at the target between when you pulled
- 22 the trigger and when the round initiated, and we
- 23 actually said that based on our measurements the
- 24 bullet was out of the barrel before the firing pin

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23

- 24
- 1 would have even impacted the primer on a
- 2 conventional firearm with a mechanical firing
- 3 system. So it --
- Q Can you explain what you mean by --4
- A Go ahead.
- Q Can you explain what you mean by
- 7 excursion? I think I know what you mean, but could
- 8 you give us a definition?
- A Excursion is the distance that the muzzle
- 10 moves. You know, the deviation from where you were
- 11 pointing when you pulled the trigger to where the
- 12 muzzle actually ends up in that period of time
- 13 given, you know, the normal motion that's imparted
- 14 by the human being holding the gun.
- 15 Q And was this electronic firearm a rifle?
- 16 A It was a bolt-action rifle.
- 17 Q Bolt-action rifle. And what -- so
- 18 typically bolt-action rifles are popular hunting
- 19 rifles; is that right? Were you thinking of this
- 20 as a hunting rifle?
- A We were thinking of it primarily as a
- 22 hunting rifle for some uses but actually more as a
- 23 target rifle given the much faster lock time it
- 24 offered.

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Q When you say a target rifle, do you mean

- 2 like a competition rifle?
- A Yeah, something where you would use for
- 4 shooting benchrest competitions or other long-range
- 5 activities like that.
- Q Okay. And did you ever produce this
- 7 firearm?

12

- Yes. It went into production I believe
- 9 in 1999, for sale in 2000, and it was on the market
- 10 for several years, two, three years as I recall.
- Q What was it called?
  - A Model 700 -- excuse me, if I can say
- 13 this. Model 700 EtronX, and that's E-t-r-o-n-X.
- 14 O Of course it is.
- 15 A Yeah.
- 16 Q And how many of those sold in those
- 17 several years?
- 18 A I would have to, you know, go back and
- 19 consult some records. I don't know. It was on the
- 20 order of thousands, but I think that particular
- 21 product was one where the technology was ahead of
- 22 what the marketplace was ready to accept.
  - Q What do you mean by that?
- The fact that you have to have in this

- 1 case a 9-volt battery in your firearm in order to
- 2 fire it. Well, in a mechanical-based system the
- 3 gun is always able to work. It's not dependent
- 4 upon a battery to be able to, you know, fire the
- 5 round.
- So there was, you know, concern on the
- 7 part of most of the public. They didn't see --
- 8 necessarily feel that the benefits afforded you by
- 9 the faster lock time were worth what their
- 10 perceived reliability issues were with having to
- 11 have a battery as a power source. What happens if
- 12 you're out hunting, shooting and the battery goes
- 13 dead and you don't have one, well, then you're done
- 14 for the day is kind of the mind-set, I believe,
- 15 there, and ultimately, you know, the customers
- 16 weighed in and the product was taken out of
- 17 production.
- 18 Q Did you or have you ever received
- 19 royalties under any of these patents?
- A No. They were assigned -- you know, the
- 21 rights were assigned to Remington. As an employee
- 22 that was the agreement that we had was the company
- 23 received the -- you know, received basically the
- 24 benefits of it and the individuals named on it did

Page 58 Page 60 1 not. There was no monetary remuneration for us. 1 years, and possibly also jump around just to warn Q Okay. So I believe that three of them 2 you. 3 are still current, they haven't expired, and that 3 A Okay. 4 would be the patents from 2011, '12, and '13; is 4 So the last position that you list on 5 that right? 5 your CV is director, DoD/Military/LE and MSR A Given the statute of limitations on 6 product development, Remington Arms, Research & 7 patents and their current lives, yeah, those are 7 Development Center, Huntsville, Alabama, correct? 8 probably still active. I would have to even go A That is correct. 9 look at what those are. Those are things that are Q And you say that you held that position 10 on my CV but not anything that comes up as part of 10 from January of 2016 to June of 2016, right? 11 my normal everyday discussion. 11 A That is correct. Q Okay. Do you know who those three 12 Q Okay. Now I read your CV, but tell me 13 patents are currently assigned to? 13 more about what you did in this role. What were 14 A I would have to look at the individual 14 your responsibilities? 15 patents. I would imagine it is to Remington Arms A As the director over those particular 16 because they are related, I believe, to firearms, 16 areas I had engineers working for me in the 17 but, again, one of them, you know, the one with 17 commercial MSR market as well as the Remington law 18 respect to the Remington gas piston system and the 18 enforcement and defense stuff, and we were working 19 plug that goes into the front of the gas block and 19 on, you know, product development programs for the 20 the way of camming that out, it would go to whoever 20 commercial market in the case of the MSR side and 21 owns those particular rights from Remington, 21 the law enforcement and the military was for 22 whether it's the newest rendition of Remington Arms 22 typically military programs and occasionally some 23 Company, which I believe is RemArms, or if it went 23 law enforcement as well. 24 to some other subsidiary that was sold separately. 24 Q So when you say MSR side, military/law Page 59 Page 61 1 I don't know. 1 enforcement side, are these like separate 2 MS. HELFRICH: Okay. I want to ask you 2 divisions, separate teams working on those 3 some questions about your employment at Remington. 4 We've been going just about an hour. I forgot to A Yes, they were separate teams, separate 5 say at the outset that you can ask for a break any 5 groups of engineers working on those programs. 6 time you want one. Lots of people want a break Q And in this time period were there other 7 after about an hour, so would you like a break? 7 product development teams at Remington Arms? THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am. My water glass A There were that concentrated on the other 9 is empty, so I'd like the opportunity to fill that 9 product lines that were offered; for instance, 10 up. 10 ammunition, shotguns, handguns. There were quite a 11 11 number of them. I want to say maybe four or five MS. HELFRICH: Okay. How about a 12 five-minute break, we'll come back at 10:10 Central 12 total. 13 Time? 13 Q Okay. Were there product development 14 THE WITNESS: Sounds good. 14 teams working that were not your teams working on 15 MS. HELFRICH: All right; great. 15 rifles? 16 (Whereupon, a recess was taken 16 A Bolt-action rifles, yes, for the 17 at 11:05 a.m. ET and resumed at 17 commercial market and for, you know, semiauto and 18 11:10 a.m. ET as follows:) 18 pump rifles commercial, you know, non-MSR firearms 19 MS. HELFRICH: Let's go back on the produced by Remington and its affiliated companies. 19 20 record. 20 Q So there were -- this is, again, going 21 BY MS. HELFRICH: 21 back to understanding how you use the term MSR. 22 22 Q Mr. Ronkainen, I want to ask you some Α Sure. 23 questions about your employment at Remington. I 23 Q So there were -- there was a product 24 want to start at the end, work backwards for a few 24 development team or division, if I'm using the term

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Page 62 Page 64 1 correctly, for semiautomatic rifles that were not 1 yes. 2 MSRs? 2 Q Okay. You mentioned the Model 750 and 3 the Model 7600 as both being semiautomatic rifles 3 A That would have been the Model 750, the 4 that are not MSRs, correct? 4 Model 7600, historical products that Remington had 5 produced for, you know, a long period of time prior A The 750 is a semiautomatic rifle. The 6 to that date. 6 7600 is a pump-action rifle. So that's a 7 O But they were semiauto; yes? 7 differentiation, but, yes, they're both not modern A Semiauto. Some were pump, pump-action, 8 sporting rifle platform style firearms. 9 where the fore-end moves back and forth to operate Q So the Model 750 that is semiautomatic, 10 the action. So yes. 10 why is it not a modern sporting rifle? Q So just in terms of the organization of 11 A It's constructed differently than modern 12 the company, were all of those kinds of rifles in 12 sporting rifles. The barrel is permanently 13 one product development group? 13 attached to the receiver. The trigger group is 14 A I believe they were, yes. 14 actually a trigger plate that drops out the bottom. 15 Q Okay. 15 It was a historic product that, you 16 know, has a different design lineage or pedigree 16 A I believe that those particular products 17 were covered by other teams within the company. 17 than modern sporting rifles. It was an approach Q So specifically what I'm asking is was 18 and a design, you know, that was not within the 19 there a product development team or product 19 idea or the realm of MSRs. 20 development division for rifles other than MSRs? 20 Q Okay. And MSRs -- just a second. So 21 A Yes. 21 there was a time period back in 2013 when you were 22 Q Was it just one team for all rifles that 22 the director of product development -- no, I'm 23 weren't MSRs? 23 sorry. Strike that question. I'm going to ask it 24 A I believe it was. I would have to go 24 a different way. Page 65 Page 63 1 back and check an org chart if I have one in my In the time that you were leading 1 2 records that -- you know, to absolutely, you know, 2 product development teams at Remington were MSRs 3 say, but my recollection is, yes, it was a separate 3 and military rifles always together in the same 4 product development team? 4 team. Q So the organization would be like this. A No. They were always separate. They 6 Tell me if I have this right. Under you there's 6 were always separate. My first role as a director 7 military and law enforcement and MSR, and then out 7 or leader was military and LE product development 8 here under somebody else there's other rifles? 8 and later on MSRs were added within my purview. 9 A Yes. Q When was that? 10 Q Okay. 10 A I have to look at the CV. I'm going to A And at various times I had other groups 11 pull up my report here. Hopefully my CV is at the 12 that were underneath me as we roll back in history, 12 back of it. 13 Q Here, let me pull it up. I'll pull it 13 but yes. 14 14 up. Q Okay. Do you know who was in charge of 15 that other rifle group? 15 Please. Α A I believe it was Andy Haskin at that 16 Q Then everybody can look at it. 17 time. Again, I'd need to go back and check to see 17 A Yep. 18 exactly what the org chart was for it, but Andy was 18 Q Can you see it? 19 the director of product development for that and it 19 Yes, I can. 20 was rifles and shotguns and more conventional 20 Your CV is attached, so I'm going to 0 21 historic products for Remington. 21 scroll to your CV. 22 Q Altogether in one product development 22 Tell me if I need to keep going. 23 group? 23 A Keep going. It's at the very end. 24 24 Okay. We're here basically in the A I believe that's how it was structured,

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Page 66 Page 68 1 Q Were you involved in sales at all? 1 time period we're discussing and my roles at 2 A No, I was not in sales directly. I 2 Remington. So you can see from, you know, December 3 worked directly with our salespeople both in the 3 of 2013 through December of 2015 and actually 4 through June of 2016 I was the director of DoD/ 4 military and LE side, DoD, as well the modern 5 sporting rifles. So I interfaced to them. I 5 Military/LE and MSR product development. The last 6 six months from January through June were in 6 wasn't out calling on customers normally. I did 7 Huntsville. We had closed the Elizabethtown 7 interface with some of our military customers and 8 location at that time, and so I was commuting for 8 that, but it wasn't my primary role. Q Were you involved in marketing? 9 approximately six months working with the -- you 10 A Again, in speaking with our -- our 10 know, my teams and with the company to identify who 11 was going to take responsibility for, you know, my 11 marketing teams that was my involvement, but in 12 teams after that because I chose not to move down 12 terms of setting up advertising campaigns and 13 to Huntsville. It just didn't work out for my 13 things of that nature, no, I was not. 14 14 family. Q So I notice that in this entry you no 15 15 longer list Ilion, New York, as the location of So at that point then I retired. 16 this job. It was listed as a location for your 16 After my waiting period or my noncompete period I 17 prior position. What is -- what explains that 17 started my own business, the Boundary Oak 18 change? 18 Enterprises. 19 A Can you direct me to which date you're 19 Q Plus you would have had to move away from 20 the Boundary Oak. 20 talking about here just so I'm sure when we're 21 talking? 21 A Absolutely. 22 Q Sure. Can you see my cursor? 22 Q Okay. In your final position were you 23 23 designing firearms? A 24 So 1/16 to 6/16, Research & Development 24 A My teams were. I was giving technical Page 67 Page 69 1 Center, Huntsville, Alabama? 1 guidance as needed, if people had questions I 2 offered it, but it was not my role to do the 2 A Yes. Q In your prior position which ended 3 day-to-day design on it. It was to lead the team. 4 December 2015 you say Elizabethtown, Kentucky; So basically give them the resources 5 Ilion; Huntsville. Now you explained --5 that they needed to accomplish their jobs in the 6 timelines we had. As we used to kind of jokingly A That's correct. 7 say, you know, to kick down doors and grease skids. 7 -- that they shut down operations in 8 You know, my job was to make way for them so that 8 Elizabethtown. What about Ilion? 9 we could meet the development timelines we had. A In Ilion, New York, with the standing up 10 For the military programs, those are 10 of the Huntsville facility models -- excuse me, 11 very hard and concise timelines. If you aren't 11 modern sporting rifle production was moved from the 12 done and deliver product on the day that they say 12 Ilion, New York, facility, the commercial side of 13 that the solicitation is over, you get there an 13 it, down to Huntsville, Alabama. 14 14 hour late and your product is not accepted. So we So all of the production of the guns, 15 were working to very firm and hard, firm and fast 15 the manufacturing of the components, the testing, 16 timelines for that particular side of the business. 16 the packaging, and shipping that had prior taken Also with the modern sporting rifle 17 place in Ilion was then done through the Huntsville 18 product development the commercial side was 18 facility and modern sporting rifle production for 19 utilizing those same things. The timelines on that 19 commercial purposes in Ilion, New York, ceased. 20 side were a little more flexible, but you don't 20 Q What about for military purposes? 21 ever want to be lackadaisical about the delivery 21 A For military purposes the production and

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22 the manufacturing group was still in Ilion, New

23 York, and was -- as it had been throughout the

24 time, it was a separate standalone area where that

22 dates. You worked hard and addressed the problems

23 that you identified as you went through the testing

24 programs. So I was not providing --

Page 70 Page 72 1 production took place. 1 issuance of the real solicitation to allow them to Q So the Ilion manufacturing facility was 2 modify the solicitation if they saw fit. Quite 3 still in operation after January of 2016? 3 often they'd say -- their answer was thank you for A Yes, ma'am. It only, I believe, ceased 4 your feedback, it is what it is. 5 operation here in March of this year. 5 And so we would utilize that document Q Okay. But you just weren't there for it? 6 then as a means of lining out what our product had 7 A I was not interacting with the modern 7 to be and fine-tuning if we needed to meet any of 8 sporting rifle, the product line and manufacturing 8 the requirements. It also gave us some guidance 9 up there. I was working with the Remington Defense 9 with regard to the testing regimen that we had to 10 team, the production team that was up there, in the 10 be able to pass, and so if we had not conducted 11 January of 2016 through June of 2016 time period. 11 those tests previously on the product we envisioned 12 I guess, you know, perhaps we could say I should 12 as offering for that we would go back and actually 13 have listed that out there but, you know, I didn't. 13 conduct that test internally and, if needed, you Q Okay. Okay. That's all I wanted to 14 know, modify the design so that we performed to the 15 understand, if there was some reason why you had 15 levels expected in the solicitation. 16 stopped dealing with those folks. 16 Q And you're talking about products that 17 already exist? 17 So how did you determine what products 18 to design? Let's start off on the military side. 18 A It may exist. In some cases it was, hey, A Okay. The military side typically there 19 this is completely, you know, brand new from 20 were military solicitations, requests for new 20 scratch. You know, if we have enough time and we 21 weapon systems that were put out by the Department 21 feel that it is a program worth competing on we 22 of Defense. They're formal solicitations, 22 could start from scratch and come up with a new 23 extremely lengthy description of specifications 23 product that was responsive to the solicitation. 24 that the firearm needs to meet as well as 24 Q But you didn't always do it that way, Page 73 1 production requirements, testing requirements that 1 sometimes you started from products you already 2 the firearm needs to be capable of meeting, and, 2 had? 3 you know, we're talking on the order of probably A It really depended upon, you know, what 4 anywhere from 20 to 30 pages long in terms of the 4 the -- how much runway we had and how much notice 5 specification requirements. 5 we had that there was this particular program So when -- as the government typically 6 coming. 7 would start fishing, if you will, or hinting at 7 For bigger programs like the 8 programs it would put out draft solicitations for 8 individual carbine program there was more than 9 comment by industry on their different things, and 9 adequate notice from the Department of Defense that 10 that was, you know, how we -- it was FedBizzOpps, I 10 that was going to go on just because they wanted 11 believe, was the site that we utilized for seeing 11 everybody to be prepared for the solicitation so 12 and having visibility on the different programs 12 that they could do it, and it wasn't typically just 13 that were underway, and FedBizzOpps not only 13 a tweak or a modification of an existing item. In 14 covered like the DoD. It also covered federal 14 many cases it was a new from scratch design that 15 agencies like Secret Service, Treasury, and 15 was provided for -- for that. 16 different groups like that that would also have 16 The channels, you know, at the very 17 need of our products. 17 early on in that when they start hinting at things 18 That said, you know, we would read 18 are sometimes informal, but as the program comes 19 that, understand how our products lined up, do kind 19 closer and closer to reality that's when the draft 20 of a rack and stack or a ranking of our products' 20 product descriptions, the PD documents would come 21 capabilities versus what they were asking for, and, 21 out, and we would utilize those for, you know, in

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23 modifying an existing product to meet whatever the

24 requirements were in particular.

22 you know, if we thought something was unreasonable 22 some cases crafting a product from scratch or

23 or going to be difficult to do we were able to

24 provide feedback to the customer prior to the

Page 74 1 On the commercial side of the business 1 with the company, they may not have always been as 2 it was a little bit different in that the feedback 2 formal a document or as extensive a document, but 3 we would get was from our marketing and our sales 3 as we grew as a company, and, you know, it's 4 teams for, you know, what they had heard, what they 4 interesting to say that for a company that was 200 5 envisioned, where their vision was for what the 5 years old when I left, we got better about how we 6 customer might want next. Some of that was based 6 did that and we got better specificity. We had 7 on customer feedback. Some of that was based on 7 forms and formats for, you know, describing what 8 intuition and experience in the marketplace. 8 the requirements were based somewhat in part on the Again, there were product, you know, 9 structure that the government provided in their PD 10 requirements listed. Obviously not as formally 10 documents. 11 defined as the U.S. government for the programs 11 And these were used not only for the 12 that they had, but they followed a similar format 12 modern sporting rifle, commercial modern sporting 13 along with expected delivery dates and things like 13 rifle product developments. They were for shotgun 14 that because, you know, they envisioned having this 14 programs, they were for bolt-action rimfire 15 product available to offer in the marketplace at 15 programs, any firearms program that the company 16 might undertake. 16 some certain point in time. 17 Q I'm sorry. I missed part of what you Q So you'd end up with a document -- it's 18 said. Who is it that established the timeline for 18 not a solicitation that's 20 to 30 pages long but a 19 developing a new commercial product? 19 pretty substantial document saying here's our 20 A A lot of that came from our sales and 20 product development plan for this product? 21 21 marketing team with feedback from the engineering

A Yeah, you know, the number of pages that 22 team because, you know, perfect world I want this 22 those were, it obviously was less. We weren't 23 tomorrow. Reality is you can have that in a year, 23 referencing necessarily all the mill standards for 24 you can have that in six months. You know, there 24 the anodization or the heat treatment or other

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1 was a discussion.

2 And, you know, it was never to the 3 point that it's like, oh, well, go ahead and take 4 three years to develop this. It was to set

5 expectations for them when the product would be 6 reasonably available and, you know, that was -- you

7 know, we always strived to do better than that, but

8 we were always happy when we were able to meet

9 their expectations for it on the commercial side of 10 the business.

11 We always had to meet it on the 12 military side. As I mentioned, there was no slack.

Q So you said that sometimes the military 14 solicitation could be 20 to 30 pages long full of 15 specs and standards and testing requirements and

16 things like that?

17 A Yes.

18 Q For a commercial product you would be

19 developing all those specs and standards and

20 testing requirements internally, you'd have your

21 own specs and standards?

A Yes, they would exist. You know,

23 historically within the company I think they -- you

24 know, early on, and I'm talking like when I started

1 things that the -- that the military and LE

2 products needed to meet, but some of it was

3 implicit.

4 We understood that, you know, if it

5 was a shotgun program that the bolt would be made 6 from hardenable steel. There may be specifications

7 about what the particular finish on it was, whether

8 it was chrome-plated, whether it was black-oxided

9 for the cosmetics, whether the receiver was

10 polished to a high level so it was nice and shiny

11 or if it was intentionally left with a matte finish

12 so that it would be less detectable.

13 All those items and, you know, 14 specific requirements were listed in the documents

15 that were available for us.

16 Q Less detectable by whom or what?

17 A Game typically. If you can imagine

18 you're out in, say, a duck blind or something or

19 hunting turkeys, and you may have never done that,

20 a lot of those guns are camouflaged, they have a

21 camouflage coating on them, or if they're not

22 camouflaged they have a nonreflective finish on

23 them so as to not draw attention to yourself in the

24 presence of the game so that you'd have the ability

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Page 78 Page 80 1 to hopefully take the game if the opportunity A You know, looking at the firearms and 2 presented itself. 2 what their intended use was, in a lot of cases it's 3 fairly obvious. Some aspects of the design are 3 Q So I guess what I'm asking you is you get 4 a big package of requirements from the military, 4 applicable across the board regardless of the final 5 but when you're designing your own commercial 5 end use, and that was, you know, kind of the way we 6 products, when you're designing commercial MSRs, 6 viewed it was, okay, you know, this is a new or a 7 you're not winging it, you're being precise about 7 different way of causing the firearm to operate in 8 every aspect of the gun and how it's going to be 8 this fashion or doing this, should we do something 9 made even if it's implicit because you've been 9 like that and where is that applicable across our 10 doing it for a long time, you're not just making it 10 product line, both for military and LE work as well 11 up as you go along, you have a plan and you have 11 as the commercial modern sporting rifles. 12 standards and you say we're going to do it this 12 Q So how did on a day-to-day basis or 13 way? 13 week-to-week, whatever it was, how did you keep up 14 MR. LOTHSON: Objection; form, misstates 14 with what was out there in the marketplace? 15 15 testimony. A You know, a lot of that was through 16 BY MS. HELFRICH: 16 media. You know, back in the day, the early 1990s, 17 17 there was no social media. There really wasn't Q You can answer. 18 A There are documents that we had and we 18 even an internet. Some of that was, you know, 19 worked with that were kind of the what we would 19 keeping up via going to the gun shows, going to gun 20 refer back to whenever there was a question about 20 stores. 21 21 what -- you know, what features and what A lot of the market awareness was 22 performance items the firearm was expected to have. 22 provided through our sales and marketing teams. Q Okay. And in this position, I'm talking 23 They had a lot of interfacing with the public, 24 different gun shows, different things like that, 24 about your final position from January '16 to June Page 81 Page 79 1 '16, 2016 I mean, did this position require you to 1 where they could see competitive products and, you 2 be familiar with MSRs manufactured by other 2 know, say, hey, that looks interesting, maybe we 3 firearms manufacturers? 3 need to get one of those and, you know, look at it, A We were familiar with them as far as 4 test it and see -- you know, understand what makes 5 it tick. 5 manufactured by other companies as part of, you Q Okay. In your second to last position, 6 know, just an ongoing product teardown. You know, 7 the position that you held from December of 2013 to 7 somebody would come out with a new offering and we 8 December of 2015 which has basically the same title 8 would essentially buy a copy of it and reverse 9 engineer it, tear it apart, understand how did it 9 as the last position except in a different 10 location; is that correct? 10 work, what made it tick, and based on that inform 11 Α Yes. 11 our designs potentially for things we might want to 12 Q So did anything change about your 12 do if they weren't protected by intellectual 13 responsibilities when you transitioned from the 13 property or, you know, could be considered for 14 patent infringement or things we could potentially 14 second to last position to the last position? 15 Yes, it did a little bit. Obviously when 15 do better than what the competitors had. 16 So there was -- you know, that type of 16 I was in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, and, you know, 17 an activity took place where it was a competitive 17 that was where I was headquartered I was an RP on 18 review of firearms. 18 our FFL, so that responsibility left when the Q And when you're doing that review did you 19 Elizabethtown facility was closed and all the 20 activities were transferred down to Huntsville. 20 understand or did you need to understand what the 21 But in terms of --21 target audience for the firearm was; in other Q Can I stop you there? Can you explain 22 words, whether that other manufacturer intended to 22 23 sell a particular firearm for hunting, for 23 what RP on an FFL means? 24 A It's responsible party. For an FFL for a 24 self-defense, for competition?

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Page 82 Page 84 1 given site there are identified responsible parties 1 hiders as well as silencers. 2 that the BATFE requires so that when they come to 2 Q Okay. And so you have them listed in the 3 make a visit they're able to say I need to -- you 3 position from 3/13 to 12/13, but I don't see them 4 know, we're here to do, for instance, an audit. 4 listed in the position you held from 12/13 to 5 The responsible party is the person that would 5 12/15. Is that just an oversight? 6 interface with them when they came on site and also A No, that actually I was able to shed some 7 for inquiries with regard to any paperwork that 7 responsibility because at that point I was getting 8 they may need for tracing operations or anything 8 spread pretty thin in terms of the groups I was 9 managing. I had my teams at the Elizabethtown R&D 10 Q Okay. And for the record, FFL is federal 10 Center, I also had a team up in Ilion, New York, 11 firearms license? 11 and I had the team down in Lawrenceville, Georgia, A Yes, ma'am, federal firearms license. 12 and so I was running from pillar to post to kind of 13 O And ATF is the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco 13 keep track of everything. So responsibilities 14 and Firearms? 14 during that time frame after December of 2013 were 15 A Yeah, BATF, and it's actually BATFE, 15 transitioned to another gentleman that was the 16 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and 16 director of product work for them. 17 Explosives. BATF, ATF were also acronyms used to 17 And I see, you know, in the 2016 time 18 describe that organization. 18 frame that it's listed as AAC brands. I do recall Q And that's what you were referring to 19 during that time frame they were under the 20 when you said ATF? 20 responsibility of a separate director, and he was 21 A Yes. 21 one that ultimately succeeded me with Remington 22 Okay. Just want a clear record. 22 Defense and the MSR product development. 23 23 Now, in your last position your Q Okay. So that's just an error in your 24 responsibilities -- or, sorry, in your last 24 resume that you weren't doing --Page 85 Page 83 1 position you were doing product development for 1 A It is. 2 Remington Defense, Remington Arms, Bushmaster, and 2 Q -- you weren't in charge of AAC brands? 3 DPMS; is that correct? 3 That's correct. 4 Q Okay. This isn't a test about your A Yes. Q Those four brands? 5 5 resume. A I believe at that point AAC may have been 6 Congratulations to you for getting rid 7 under another director. I see it listed there, 7 of some responsibility. That's not easy to do. 8 but, yeah, it would have been those entities that 8 Once they give it to you, it's hard to get rid of 9 you mentioned. 9 it. 10 10 Q Can you explain what AAC means on your A Sometimes, yes, ma'am. 11 resume? 11 Q Okay. So the position that you held from 12 March of 2013 to December of 2013 you're still --A Yeah, it's Advanced Armament Corporation. 13 It was a brand or a company that was purchased by 13 is this essentially the same position? What's 14 Freedom Group. Their primary product line was 14 changing? 15 silencers for firearms, and they also did some -- a A What happened there was I picked up 16 small quantity of firearms in addition to that. 16 responsibility for modern sporting rifles in 17 Looking back through it, there was a 17 March of 2013, so that's when Ilion, New York, 18 version of the Model 700 that was chambered in .300 18 became the location because the Remingtons and at 19 Blackout that they offered that was kind of an 19 that time Bushmaster MSRs were produced in the 20 AAC-specific product. There was an H&R Handi Rifle 20 Ilion, New York, facility, so that part of the team 21 that was similar that they offered and there was 21 was added to me. There were engineers on the team 22 also, I believe, an AR platform firearm that was 22 that was at the Elizabethtown facility that was 23 .300 Blackout that they offered, but their primary 23 doing work for DPMS products and others. They were 24 business was muzzle devices for silencers, flash 24 added to me.

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Daga 96	Daga 99
Page 86  1 So I assumed responsibility in	Page 88  1 Q And that's a military competition?
2 March of 2013 for modern sporting rifle product	2 A Yes, it is, or was.
3 development throughout the Remington Arms Company.	3 Q And did the modification done, the second
4 Q And the Remington Arms Company the brands	4 modification, not the initial modification by
5 at that point were Remington Arms or Remington?	5 Bushmaster but the second one to make it suitable
6 A Remington, yes.	6 for the military, include the addition of automatic
7 Q Well, you say them. You know better	7 fire?
8 A Remington, Bushmaster, DPMS, and AAC for,	8 A Automatic fire capability had come from
9 you know, what activities they had with regard to,	9 Bushmaster. They had included that as part of
10 you know, MSRs. It was limited, but they did some	10 their development. The refinement of that was
11 work.	11 took place by my teams in Elizabethtown, New York,
12 Q And then Remington Defense was	12 as well as design upgrades that helped the ACR meet
13 A And Remington Defense as well.	13 the requirements for the individual carbine
14 Q Okay. So March 2013 you get it all,	14 competition.
15 right? Meaning you get military, you get MSR. Why	15 So there were several fairly
16 was that reorganization made?	16 significant design modifications that took place
17 A At about that same time the handgun	17 that removed features from the original ACR design
18 development group within Remington was really	18 as received from Magpul by Bushmaster and, you
19 growing and some of there was just a reshuffling	19 know, incorporated by Bushmaster into what we
20 of responsibilities within the directors of product	20 ultimately submitted for the IC program.
21 development to free up a director to concentrate on	21 Q All right. Thank you for explaining
22 our handgun market, and so at the same time that he	22 that.
23 was relieved of some of his other commercial	23 I want to ask some broader questions
24 product development responsibilities there was just	24 about Remington but I do want to clarify, so you
Page 87	Page 89
1 a shuffling and it ended up that modern sporting	1 worked continuously for Remington Arms from August
2 rifles they felt that they were aligned reasonably	2 of 1990 through June of 2016; is that correct?
3 well with the work I did as part of the DoD,	3 A That is correct.
4 military, and LE so, hence, my assumption of the	4 Q But you also had this gig here in '85,
5 responsibility for those teams.	5 '86 where you were a field services engineer?
6 Q But other non-MSR rifles were still	6 A That's correct. I was originally hired
7 somewhere else, you didn't have those?	7 by DuPont as a field services engineer, which is a
8 A That's correct.	8 program that DuPont had for hiring engineering
9 Q Now I'm going to scroll down to the	9 talent and exposing them to a variety of areas
10 bottom of that page of your resume, the bottom of	10 within the DuPont company.
11 page 1, back here in the period from November of	When I was hired basically I was on
12 2008 to January of 2011 that's where we see this	12 the fence with am I going to go to graduate school
13 entry here about the adaptive combat rifle. This	13 for a master's in mechanical engineering or am I
14 is what we were this is what I intended to ask	14 going to go into the workforce. The opportunity to
15 about before, and I think this is what we talked	15 go to Remington, given my interest from childhood
16 about before. This is the Remington ACR?	16 in firearms, was a real strong pull and is the
17 A That's correct. That was the	17 reason I went with that option, thinking that at
18 Bushmaster originally had the design and did the	18 some point if I didn't enjoy that or if it wasn't
19 refinement on the design to make it producible.	19 fun I could always go back for grad school later
20 The Remington Defense team then took what they had	20 on.
21 and further refined the design so that it was going	21 You know, 30 some you know, 36, 37,
22 to be meet the requirements for the IC	22 38, 39 years later didn't make it to grad school.
23 competition, the individual carbine competition I	23 I started off as a field engineer, did an
24 mentioned previously.	24 approximately two-year assignment, maybe just
	1

23 (Pages 86 - 89)

Page 90 Page 92 1 slightly shy of that, maybe like 20 months, and 1 wasn't a one-off thing. As I recall, there were 2 then moved on to another assignment because that's 2 probably three, four other engineers altogether 3 the way the field engineering program worked where 3 besides myself there during that time period. 4 I was at the Imaging Systems Department in Newark, There was an economic downturn during 5 Delaware. We worked on equipment and machinery for 5 the fall of 1986 and the plant went basically to 6 doing off-press proofing. 6 operating on three days a week and eventually had 7 7 to do a layoff, and it was hard to keep, as I That's kind of a strange thing, 8 somebody hears that and it's like you have no idea 8 called myself jokingly, a rental engineer but it 9 what it is. Basically for all color printing they 9 was hard to keep a non-Remington direct employee 10 use four different colors ink. It's four process 10 working there when Remington direct employees were 11 colors. There's yellow, magenta, cyan, and black. 11 being let go. So my assignment ended about three 12 And in order to get the picture to turn out, we've 12 or four months early, and that's how I ended up 13 all seen pictures that have been printed that, you 13 down at Imaging Systems Department in Newark. 14 know, they don't look good, the coloration is 14 Q And during this period from January '87 15 wrong, this allowed companies to verify that 15 to July of '90 were you trying to get back into the 16 their -- the separations and the picture that would 16 firearms industry? 17 ultimately be printed with those printing plates 17 A At that point I had the -- you know, 18 would be good without having to make the printing 18 within the field engineering program there was the 19 plates. 19 opportunity to do career transfers. They typically 20 20 wanted you to do at least two assignments before It was an off-line process that 21 simulated what the printing press would do and 21 you made that transfer. They would encourage you 22 allowed them to take and do this check and confirm 22 doing three or more so that you got, you know, a 23 that they had everything, make adjustments so that 23 much better idea of the breadth of the company and 24 they weren't doing it when the press was running. 24 areas where your skills aligned with the Page 93 Page 91 So this period was --1 requirements or the needs of those particular 1 2 After that -- yeah, go ahead. 2 divisions. 3 3 Q This period 1/87 to 2/89, field services So I felt that after three assignments 4 I knew that I wanted to go back to Remington. 4 engineer --5 There was the opportunity to do so, and so I did. 5 A Yes. Q And so from August of 1990 through to Q -- Newark, Delaware, you were not working 7 June of 2016 you were an employee of Remington the 7 on anything to do with firearms; is that right? 8 entire time? 8 A That is correct. Q And in this period from March of '89 to A Yes. 10 Q Okay. You said you had a childhood 10 July of '90, Engineering Development Laboratory, 11 interest in firearms. Can you talk a bit about 11 Wilmington, Delaware, are you doing anything 12 that? Specifically what made you want to go into 12 related to firearms? 13 the firearms industry? A I was not doing that during that period. 13 14 It was with advanced composites that, you know, A Well, growing up in, you know, northern 15 Minnesota, firearms and hunting were a big part of 15 were my primary assignments. Q So when you were doing this first stint 16 growing up. I remember the first time I ever, you 17 with Remington in May of '85 to December '86 were 17 know, shot a gun it was with my family. It was my 18 you employed by Remington or were you employed by 18 dad and my brother and my mother and shot a 19 DuPont? 19 Remington .22, a 572 pump-action .22 that my father 20 had, and I thought that was really cool. A I was employed by DuPont. Remington was 21 21 a wholly owned subsidiary of DuPont during that Had the opportunity to do hunting, 22 time period, and there were several other field 22 first not carrying a gun because you had to be 12 23 engineers that were at the Ilion location working 23 years old in order to go through firearm safety and 24 in different roles besides myself there. So it 24 I get a hunting license, so starting at about the

24 (Pages 90 - 93)

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1 age of seven or eight I got to do a lot of walking	1 plant, and so that was the impetus for the
2 and sitting with my extended family as we deer	2 selection of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, as the
3 hunted and did other hunting in northern Minnesota.	3 combined R&D site for both the firearms and the
4 Q Okay.	4 ammunition manufacturing.
5 A So that was really the impetus and, you	5 They purchased the facility, they
6 know, the seed for my interest in firearms was	6 refurbished it, added the laboratory space that was
7 learning to use them as a kid and understanding,	7 needed to do firearms and ammunition development,
8 you know, the enjoyment I had from them.	8 including a hundred-yard range, shooting what we
9 Q So during the time that you were at	9 called shooting butts but basically a short range
10 Remington there were shifts in Remington's	10 where firearms could be tested without, you know,
11 corporate ownership, corporate structure. Can you	11 letting bullets go outside the building. We shot
12 describe that to me? As best you can remember,	12 the firearms into special devices that caught the
13 what's the timeline for Remington becoming	13 projectiles and then allowed the recycling of the
14 associated with Bushmaster, DPMS, and AAC?	14 material.
15 A Okay. I'll do my best on this.	In 2008 Clayton, Dubilier & Rice, I
In a lot of cases I was, you know, the	16 believe it was 2008, sold Remington to Cerberus
17 recipient of the information rather than the	17 Capital Management, and at that point Cerberus was
18 deliverer of it, but when I hired into Remington in	18 the parent company that was over Remington. They
19 1985 it was a wholly owned subsidiary of DuPont. I	19 also had other firearms assets within their
20 believe DuPont had purchased all of the outstanding	20 portfolio. I believe, you know, Bushmaster was
21 stock for Remington in the late '70s, early '80s,	21 owned by them prior to the purchase of Remington.
22 at which point it became a wholly owned subsidiary.	22 There may have been other entities as well. Again,
23 Prior to that it was a standalone company.	23 that wasn't something that was, you know, part of
24 In November of 1993, I believe, DuPont	24 my day-to-day activities as to who owned what and
Page 95	Page 97
1 sold Remington along with Stren, and Remington at	1 all the things that were happening there, but my
2 that time included the firearms and the ammunition	2 recollection is that Bushmaster was there.
3 business, Stren was a fishing line business that	3 After they combined the businesses,
4 they owned, to an investment banking firm called	4 moved Bushmaster and Remington underneath the same
5 Clayton, Dubilier & Rice. CD&R is the acronym used	5 umbrella, they purchased several other
6 for them.	6 firearms-related businesses and some just
7 CD&R, their way of doing business was	7 outdoor-related businesses. DPMS was purchased at
8 they purchased divisions of larger conglomerates	8 one point. Mountain Khakis, which was a clothing
9 that no longer aligned with the direction that the	9 company, was also purchased. There were just quite
10 parent corporation was going, and that was	10 a wide range of different acquisitions that took
11 basically, you know, DuPont at that time, I	11 place. Advanced Armament was part of that.
12 believe, had probably it was no longer in the	And so they built what became Freedom
13 gunpowder business and so as a result the affinity	13 Group, which ultimately, you know, was there until
14 and the alignment that they had from when they	14 I retired or, you know, finished my work with the
15 originally invested in the company to that point	15 company in 2016.
16 was had diminished and they just felt it was a	16 I think that's reasonably accurate.
17 good thing to sell at that point so they did.	17 That's from my point of view how it all went down.
With the purchase of Remington by	18 I'm sure there are a lot more specific details that
19 Clayton, Dubilier & Rice they had the feeling that	19 could be provided, but as a layman's view from
20 the product development R&D groups would do better	20 inside the company that's how I believe it went
21 if they were taken away from the manufacturing	21 down.
22 facilities and put into a standalone facility so	22 Q That's fine. I'm asking so we have at
22 that their attention wouldn't be diverted to	22 least the same understanding even if it's warm
23 that their attention wouldn't be diverted to 24 address manufacturing issues as they arose in the	23 least the same understanding, even if it's wrong. 24 Can you tell me, though, at what point

25 (Pages 94 - 97)

Page 98 Page 100 1 or by what point were Remington, Bushmaster, and 1 flexible with regard to the product line they were 2 working on. As programs for one brand wrapped up, 2 DPMS all in the same corporate family? 3 those resources as they were no longer required for A Well, I know, like I had mentioned, I 4 believe Bushmaster was owned by Cerberus Capital 4 the program that was being launched were redeployed 5 for -- you know, on other programs that, you know, 5 Management prior to the purchase of Remington. You 6 know, there may have been some rearrangement and 6 could have been potentially for other brands within 7 reorganization within the group post-acquisition of 7 the portfolio. 8 Remington. What exactly that was I don't know. Q Okay. I got it. 9 Let me ask you some questions about DPMS was purchased at a point sometime 10 the firearms industry more broadly. When you first 10 after Remington was purchased by Cerberus Capital 11 Management. Again, I don't have a specific date. 11 worked for Remington in 1990 Remington was not 12 making modern sporting rifles, correct? 12 Q Okay. 13 13 That is correct. A Bushmaster was a standalone firearms 14 Q What was their product line roughly? 14 development company in -- when I started my role as 15 What kind of product lines did they have? 15 a director of military and LE product development. A Their product line was primarily 16 My management from the non-R&D side, the actual 16 17 business side, we're the ones that were working 17 bolt-action rifles in the Model 700 and Model 7 18 with Bushmaster specifically for the development of 18 product line. There were also shotguns, the Model 19 870 pump-action shotgun, Model 11-87 semiauto 19 potential military weapons, not really doing 20 anything with regard to commercial development. 20 shotgun. There was a bolt-action pistol called the 21 XP-100, and there were rimfire products that were 21 That was handled via Bushmaster's own internal 22 both bolt-action, pump-action, and semiautomatic is 22 marketing and sales organization. Q Okay. But by 2008 at least Bushmaster 23 my recollection of the product line in 1990. 24 24 and Remington are in the same corporate family and Q And were you interested in working on Page 101 Page 99 1 then sometime within the next few years DPMS gets 1 MSRs or working on AR platform firearms at that 2 added? 2 time? 3 A That's my recollection of it, yes. 3 A Regardless of what my interest would have Well, let me ask you, I want to refer to 4 been, the opportunity wasn't there at Remington. 5 You know, personally I was working on bolt-action 5 a chart you have in your report. You have an AFMER 6 chart of production, this is on page 4 of your 6 rifles during that time period, so, unfortunately, 7 report, "AMFER" but I think you meant AFMER 7 it's one of those, you know, what you want to do 8 Production Volumes, Bushmaster, DPMS, and it starts 8 and what you have to do are not always perfectly 9 in 2007. 9 aligned. 10 A Yes. This is really without regard to 10 Q I've heard. But were you -- let me put 11 it this way. Were you interested in MSRs at that 11 ownership or acquisition --Q Who owned it, okay. All right. That's 12 point in your career? 13 what I wanted to understand. 13 A I was mildly interested, but it wasn't, 14 A Yeah. Yeah. 14 you know, a passion that I had. I'd had limited Got it. That's what I wanted to 15 15 exposure to them up to that point. 16 understand. 16 Q Do you know when you started in 1990, in

24 been around for quite a long time. Colt predates

17 the early '90s, do you know how many companies were

A You know, I would have to go back and 22 look. I'm aware of certain players that were, you

23 know, active back then. You know, Bushmaster has

18 making MSRs, what the size of that market was --

19 or, sorry, not the size of the market, the players

21

20 in the market?

26 (Pages 98 - 101)

22 one family; fair?

Okay. So when you're working on

18 product development for all the brands it isn't

19 necessarily the case that all the brands are one

20 company, they may be different companies, but it

21 doesn't matter, you cross lines because you're all

A That is an accurate description of the

24 way we worked. You know, our engineers were

17

Page 102 Page 104 1 identified just based on my own personal knowledge 1 them. ArmaLite was also a player. 2 that the company was producing MSRs at that time. 2 Again, I'd have to go back and look at 3 historically who they were in that time period 3 There are potentially a lot of smaller companies of 4 because I didn't follow it closely. It wasn't, you 4 which I had no awareness of what their specific 5 products were that may have been producing MSRs 5 know, an all-consuming passion that I had 6 personally during that time period. 6 during that time. Q You state in your report at some point 7 O But it wasn't scores, you wouldn't use 8 that at the end of your career at Remington there 8 the term scores? A In the 2005 time frame I would say, yeah, 9 were scores of companies, that's the term you used, 10 it's certainly a score and probably was scores. 10 scores, manufacturing MSRs. Do you remember saying 11 that? 11 Like I said, I personally identified about 20, but 12 I'm sure there were a lot more. Like I said, we'd 12 A Yes. Q I'm going to find it for you. 13 have to go in and investigate each company, okay, 13 14 14 were they making MSRs. A Okay. 15 15 One of the issues with the AFMER Q Because I want to get it right, too. 16 Oops. Didn't work. What happened 16 reports is that, unfortunately, they don't classify 17 there. Here we go: Indeed, scores of other 17 rifles as anything other than rifles, so MSRs get 18 companies besides mine were significantly involved 18 grouped in with bolt-actions and other 19 in this consumer MSR marketplace. 19 semiautomatic firearms or rifles and pump-action. And you're talking about 2012 onward, 20 So if you have a company that's producing a myriad 21 of product lines or multiple product lines that 21 I believe, in this section: is that correct? 22 involve all those products you don't have the 22 A Yes. 23 O So scores means at least 40, and what I'm 23 ability with that data to extract exactly what the 24 interested in is how did that number compare to 24 MSR market is, but as I understand, you know, other Page 103 Page 105 1 what was around in 1990 or the early '90s when you 1 folks have gone and done that work and gone and dug 2 were first at Remington? 2 a little bit deeper and publicly A It was substantially larger than what it 3 questioned -- not publicly but privately questioned 4 was, you know, during the 1990s. 4 some of the manufacturers, okay, what was your Q Do you know what the size of the MSR 5 breakdown and they have that information. 6 market was in the early 1990s? 6 Unfortunately, I don't have that information A I do not. I don't have that information. 7 personally. I only have the AFMER reports to 8 That was prior to my involvement with the product, 8 review. 9 and, as I said, Remington during that time period Q Okay. I'm trying to assess -- I'm not 10 was not active in the production of MSRs and it 10 trying to pin you down on a specific number, but 11 wasn't a personal interest I had outside of, you 11 I'm trying to assess like between 2004 when you say 12 know, what I was working on. So I don't know. 12 you know of about 20 companies making MSRs and when 13 I'm sure data exists, you know, AFMER 13 you left Remington in 2016 how many more companies 14 reports from that time period that might be able 14 were there in 2016 or less or fewer? 15 to, you know, hint at what the market size was, but A You know, in reviewing the reports and, 16 personally I don't have information from that time 16 again, the number of FFLs reporting the manufacture 17 of rifles increased greatly. I mean, you take a Q Okay. Do you know how many companies 18 look at just the PDFs for the reports themselves 19 were making MSRs in 2004 when the federal assault 19 the rifle section grew, you know, probably doubled 20 weapons band ended? 20 in length. 21 A That number, you know, I've looked at 21 A lot of these companies are small. 22 some of the data and it was -- you know, without 22 The numbers they're reporting are not particularly 23 extensive investigation of what each company's 23 large. Some of them -- some of the companies, some

27 (Pages 102 - 105)

24 of the more traditional companies, produced a

24 product line was, there were in excess of 20 that I

Page 106 1 significant quantity as evidenced by the number

- 2 they reported, but, you know, by identifying
- 3 companies that I know produced MSR products and
- 4 exclusively MSR products rather than some mixture
- 5 where you can't differentiate given the data I had
- 6 access to, I would say that easily the field
- 7 doubled and went into the forties and, quite
- 8 honestly, I'd say with a more extensive examination
- 9 and probing of what the product line was for each
- 10 company it could have been even more than that.
- Q So based on your experience, and I
- 12 understand all of the limitations on what you're
- 13 saying, but from your experience the number of
- 14 companies you would say roughly doubled from 2004 14 that move at that time?
- 15 to 2016 and I'm saying the number of companies
- 16 manufacturing MSRs, correct, that's what you said?
- 17 MR. LOTHSON: Objection; misstates
- 18 testimony.
- 19 THE WITNESS: You know, what I said was
- 20 that from the inception of when I started looking
- 21 at data through about 2016, yeah, the number of
- 22 manufacturers I was able to identify approximately
- 23 doubled.
- 24

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## 1 BY MS. HELFRICH:

- Q Okay. And comparing 2004 to 1990 you
- 3 said -- and, again, I'm not asking you to give me a
- 4 specific number, but did it double, did it triple --
- 5 sorry, 1990 to 2004, in your experience did the
- 6 number of manufacturers double, triple, stay the
- 7 same, go down?
- A I didn't have access to reports from that
- 9 time period, from the early '90s. The only ones I
- 10 had accessible to me were through I want to say the
- 11 early 2000s. If there were ones from that earlier
- 12 time period I did not see those.
- 13 So I'm not able to offer an estimate
- 14 of what the market change was over that time period
- 15 just because I don't have data for the starting
- 16 point.
- 17 Q Fair. And this growth in the number of
- 18 companies, is this related to a growth in the size
- 19 of the market for MSRs in your view?
- A I would say it is related to a growth in
- 21 the size of the market because, you know, standard
- 22 economics are a supply-and-demand thing. You can
- 23 have a large supply, but if there's not demand for
- 24 it they wouldn't be -- you know, the firearms

1 manufacturers wouldn't be shipping the product.

- 2
- So there was demand in the marketplace
- 3 for the MSR products as evidenced by, you know, the
- 4 increasing number of participants in the market for
- 5 manufacturing as well as the numbers produced.
- Q And Remington itself entered the MSR
- 7 market in 2008; is that correct?
- A I believe that's correct. It's within
- 9 that time frame, 2008, 2009. I would have to go
- 10 back and do some studying of catalogs to see what
- 11 the introduction date was for the R-15 and the
- 12 R-25.
- 13 Q Do you know why Remington decided to make
- A Well, I believe at that point in time we
- 16 were -- you know, Bushmaster and DPMS at a later
- 17 point were partners for us. We wanted to offer an
- 18 MSR that was tailored for hunting and for varmint
- 19 used them for target use. So there was a
- 20 rebranding, rebadging, if you will, of products as
- 21 well as some that were Remington-specific in terms
- 22 of the features that they offered.
- 23 Q In your view was the market for MSRs
- 24 expanding at that time around 2008?

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- A Yes, I believe it was. You know, with
- 2 the expiration of the assault weapons ban that's
- 3 when I think, you know, based on the data I've seen
- 4 with market participants and that that there was an
- 5 increase in the number of companies producing the
- 6 firearms as well as the quantities produced as
- 7 well.
- Q Do you know whether it was a big increase
- 9 or just similar to what had come before?
- 10 A You know, you'd have to actually map it
- 11 all out, but the growth curve seemed like for the
- 12 first several years after the lapse of the ban was
- 13 a steady growth and then there were times where
- 14 later on the growth was steeper. And there were
- 15 actually in some cases, a couple cases, where there
- 16 were slight market declines as well, but in general
- 17 the trend was towards higher quantities and more
- 18 participants in the -- you know, in the manufacture
- of modern sporting rifles.
- 20 Q So I have read, and I'm not vouching for
- 21 this number, but I have read that Bushmaster and
- 22 DPMS in 2007 had about half the market for AR-15s.
- 23 Does that sound right to you?
- 24 They had a significant part of the

	P 110		D 112
1	Page 110 market. To pin me down to a specific number I'd	1	Page 112 Eastern Time.
	have to go back and run the numbers myself.	2	MS. HELFRICH: Are you on Eastern Time?
3	So it doesn't sound particularly	3	THE WITNESS: I am on Eastern Time. I'm
	outrageous, but, you know, again, for specificity I	_	five miles from the timeline.
	would really need to take and do the numbers myself	5	MS. HELFRICH: Okay. So your stomach is
	to confirm that.	_	on Eastern Time, too.
7	Q Okay. Would it be correct to say based	7	THE WITNESS: Yeah, unfortunately.
8	on your experience that in 2007 AR-15s were a	8	MS. HELFRICH: Okay. Well, I'll aim for
	dominant part of the MSR market?	9	12:15 lunch break.
10	A I would say that they were one of the	10	THE WITNESS: Excellent.
11	primary products that were being sold in the MSR	11	MS. HELFRICH: Okay. Thank you.
12	market. I think, you know, also the importation	12	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
13	bans that were in place for some of the other	13	(Whereupon, a recess was taken
14	products, with the lapse of those there was	14	at 12:21 p.m. ET and resumed at
15	interest in people, you know, in AKs and other	15	12:26 p.m. ET as follows:)
16	platforms that, you know, kind of fall under the	16	MS. HELFRICH: So we'll go back on the
17	MSR umbrella, but the AR market I would say	17	record.
18	definitely was in a growth mode.	18	BY MS. HELFRICH:
19	Q Around that time, around 2007, 2008?	19	Q Mr. Ronkainen, I want to ask you some
20	A It had started, yes. As I mentioned		questions about your report, so I have to do a
	previously, with the lapse of the assault weapons	21	little bit of business first to clean up the
	ban the market grew and, you know, based on the		record.
	reported numbers in AFMER.	23	You've already said that Exhibit 1 is
24	Q And is it correct to say that AR-15s were	24	the report you submitted in this case. You were
	Page 111		Page 113
	a really dominant part of the market and then their		and you've said that you were retained by Lothson's
	share is kind of shrinking as other things come in?		firm; is that correct?
3	A You know, yeah, their market probably did	3	A That is correct.
	decrease, the percentage of the modern sporting	4	Q All right. What was your assignment in
	rifle market that they commanded decreased as other		this case?
	products were introduced, other platforms that were	6	A My assignment was to provide a point of
	within that same umbrella. Again, need to take and		view or a rebuttal to expert witnesses' reports
	do a deeper dive on the AFMER data to understand,		that were provided originally in this case, in this
	you know, really what that shift was.		matter, and to provide the perspective of somebody that had been in the industry and active within it
10	You know, at a high level I would say it decreased some, but, you know, since there's		in a role that involved the development of the
	really no way to for me given the data I have to		product in question and, you know, a participant in
	be able to tell you exactly what it is, I can only		the industry that worked with the sales and
	offer my estimation of what it is.		marketing and somebody that was basically involved,
15	MS. HELFRICH: Okay. I'd like to take a		a player, if you will.
	five-minute break, if that's all right with you.	16	Q Do you have personal beliefs about
	So we'll come back on the record at 11:25.		whether the firearms restricted by Illinois' law
18	THE WITNESS: Okay. Can we take a lunch		should be available to civilians?
	break then, say, around noon your time?	19	A I do. I support the Second Amendment
20	MS. HELFRICH: Well		and you know, so we can leave it at that.
21	THE WITNESS: Or is that not not		Basically, yes, I support the Second Amendment and
22	within what you'd like to do?		we'll leave it at that.
23	MS. HELFRICH: How about 12:15?	23	Q Did you have that view that the weapons
	TRUE WHENTERS TO 1 1 1 1	24	restricted by the Illinois law should be evailable
24	THE WITNESS: That will work. I'm on	24	restricted by the Illinois law should be available

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- 1 to civilians, did you have that view when you
- 2 started in the firearms industry in 1990?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q In your report you list on page 7 to 8 --
- 5 no, actually 6 to 7 you list materials reviewed,
- 6 expert reports of Louis Klarevas, Lucy Allen, Phil
- 7 Andrew, and James Yurgealitis, correct?
- Q Now, did you review the original report
- 10 by Mr. Klarevas or the corrected report by
- 11 Mr. Klarevas?
- 12 A I'm uncertain as to which one I actually
- 13 reviewed. It was probably the corrected one, but I
- 14 don't know. I didn't realize there were two.
- Q Okay. I thought that might be the case
- 16 but let me just ask you, your rebuttal is to pages
- 17 7 to 21 of his report.
- 18 A Okay.
- 19 Q Here's what you say up here because I
- 20 think we can solve this problem pretty easily. You
- 21 say that his statements that he makes are wrong,
- 22 see Klarevas report pages 7 to 21. So that's the
- 23 section of the report that you're addressing?
- 24 Α Yes.

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- Q Okay. So long as you're not addressing 1
- 2 anything else I can tell you that none of the
- 3 changes that were made affect pages 7 to 21, so I'm
- 4 going to probably show you his report later but
- 5 I'll show you the corrected one and I believe we
- 6 don't need to worry about that. Mr. Lothson can
- 7 have a different opinion if he thinks that you
- 8 reviewed a different report.
- 9 So did you review any -- sorry?
- 10 A I was going to ask when the correction
- 11 took place.
- 12 Q Just like a week later there was a --
- 13 A Okay.
- Q -- change in an academic article that
- 15 came to Mr. Klarevas's attention.
- 16 A Okay.
- MR. LOTHSON: Untimely disclosure which 17
- 18 we'll move to strike.
- 19 BY MS. HELFRICH:
- 20 Q Did you draft the report yourself?
- 21 A Yes, I did.
- Q And do you stand by everything in the
- 23 report or do you want to change anything today?
- 24 A I stand by the report as written.

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- 1 Q Okay. Let me point something out, and
- 2 then I'm going to ask you that question again.
- 3 A Okay.
- 4 You say here -- so here we're on page 4:
- 5 The AFMER data alone confirms that my companies,
- 6 e.g., Bushmaster and DPMS, respectively, produced
- 7 302,530 and 848,311 for a total of 1,150,841 MSRs
- 8 during the period for which such data directly
- 9 attributable to each company was available.
- 10 Now, those --
- 11 A Could you share your screen, please?
- 12 Oh, my gosh. I thought I was sharing.
- 13 A No.
- 14 Q Can you see it now?
- 15 Yes, I can see it now.
- 16 Q Okay. So this is the sentence that I
- 17 just read, starts with "The AFMER data alone." Go
- 18 ahead and read that sentence.
- 19 Can you scroll down so I can also see the
- 20 table?

23

- 21 Q Yeah. I want to ask you about the table.
- 22
  - Because for Bushmaster, for example, in O
- 24 the first line this total here is equals rifles

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- 1 minus exported rifles but then the second line the
- 2 total equals just rifles and it looks like you
- 3 didn't subtract exported rifles and the same for
- 4 the third line --
  - A Based on what you're showing me there I
- 6 would agree that that is -- the formulas
- 7 calculating the value shown and total are
- 8 different.

18 reduce the total --

- Q So was it your intention, were these
- 10 totals intended to represent, the totals you give
- 11 in the text up here, intended to represent rifles
- 12 produced minus rifles exported?
- 13 A I believe that's what my intent was, and
- 14 obviously with the math equation issue it did not
- 15 reduce the number of rifles exported, which would
- 16 have made a difference of about 5,600 perhaps,
- 17 5,800, somewhere in that neighborhood. So it would
- Q Yeah, it's not a huge difference, but I
- 20 just wanted to understand what your intention was.
- 21 So can I assume, then, that the total
- 22 attributable to each company is the number of
- 23 rifles produced, so the second column from the
- 24 left, minus rifles exported, fourth column from the

Page 118 Page 120 1 left? 1 product development, which would have been 2 2 starting, I believe, in 2013 by my CV. Α That would be the intent, yes, ma'am. Okay. That's fine. I just wanted to 3 Q So 2013 to 2016? 3 Q 4 4 understand. I did not see that issue arising in Yes, would have been in that time period. 5 5 the DPMS data. It was just Bushmaster, who knows Q Okay. I want to ask you about some 6 numbers that Mr. Klarevas gives, so let me stop 7 So with that correction do you stand 7 sharing and show you a different document. 8 8 by everything that's in your report? Can you see a document that has a A I do stand by everything that's in my 9 title Declaration of Louis Klarevas? 10 report with the exception of those total numbers 10 A Yes, I see that. 11 would vary based on correction of the math there 11 Q Okay. And just to make Mr. Lothson 12 that took place there. 12 happy, I'm going to use Mr. Klarevas's first report 13 Q Okay. 13 since pages 7 to 21 are unchanged. 14 14 A With the magnitude of the error being Do you recognize this document as 15 approximately 56 to 5,800 units in total for the 15 something that you reviewed? 16 A Yes. 16 time period in question. 17 Q And is everything in the report true to Q I'm going to scroll. 18 the best of your knowledge? 18 Do you recognize this? 19 19 A Yes, ma'am, it is. Yes. 20 Q Okay; great. 20 Q Okay. I'm going to go to page 14 of this 21 Now, I want to ask you some more about 21 report. I need to make this bigger. 22 the market for MSRs. So you say on page 3: I have 22 Can you still see it, the chart? 23 also reviewed the report submitted by the State's 23 Yes, I can still see it. Okay. This is a chart that Mr. Klarevas 24 expert, Mr. Klarevas. Mr. Klarevas's suggestion 24 Page 119 Page 121 1 included in his report. Now, these are numbers 1 that MSR production volumes did not result in 2 significant quantities of MSRs being produced for 2 that the NSSF provides regarding annual production 3 of MSRs. Now I assume that you are not able to 3 the civilian marketplace is wrong. 4 vouch for the accuracy of these numbers, but if I'm Did I read that correctly? 5 5 wrong please let me know. A Yes. A I am unable to vouch for those. The only Q Okay. And, as you said earlier, your 7 access I would have had for those would have been 7 rebuttal is aimed at pages 7 to 21 of his report, 8 in Mr. Klarevas's report. 8 correct? 9 A Yes. 9 Q That's fine. 10 What I want to ask you about is the 10 Q All right. Then you go on to say: 11 pattern that these numbers show, so the specific 11 During my tenure as the director of MSR new product 12 numbers don't matter. What I want to ask you is 12 development for Remington, DPMS, and Bushmaster, 13 whether the pattern of growth is the same pattern 13 MSR production volumes for lawful sales to 14 civilians stayed robust year over year. ATF AFMER 14 of growth that you experienced in this market, and 15 what I want to point out especially is I want to 15 data for DPMS and Bushmaster confirms this point. 16 Overall, the market has been consistent or 16 divide it up into sort of three different decades. 17 expanding, not contracting on the whole. 17 So if we look in the '90s, and I 18 Did I read that correctly? 18 understand that you don't -- you didn't study the 19 19 data from the 1990s, in the 1990s we've got a much A Yes. 20 smaller market than we do between, let's say, 2010 Q Okay. So when you say during my tenure 21 and 2021. That would seem to jibe with what you've 21 as director of MSR new product development for 22 Remington, DPMS, and Bushmaster, could you say what 22 told me; is that right? 23 time period you are referring to? 23 A That's correct. The numbers that 24 Mr. Klarevas is listing there are all firearms, 24 A That is when I had responsibility for the

31 (Pages 118 - 121)

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- 1 which are handguns and everything else. MSRs is a
- 2 part of the total market --
- Q Well, hang on because this first column 3
- 4 here is MSRs annual. MSRs --
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 O This column --
- 7 A For calculation of the percentages he's
- 8 using all firearms annually. My data when I've
- 9 looked at it has been with regard to rifles only,
- 10 so I'll make that caveat.
- Q Do you mean your data has been -- I don't
- 12 understand. Could you explain again?
- A In the third column there where it says
- 14 All Firearms (Annual).
- 15 Q Yeah.
- A That's all firearms, shotguns, rifles,
- 17 pistols, everything, and so the data I've done in
- 18 terms of, you know, MSR and market analysis has
- 19 been looking strictly with regard to rifles. It
- 20 doesn't count in handguns, which are a significant
- 21 part of the market, or other firearms. It's
- 22 strictly looking at rifles in total.
- Q So you have no thoughts about this
- 24 percentage of MSRs as a percentage of total

Page 123

- 1 firearms produced? A I would say that it's, you know, the
- 3 trend that's indicated there is, you know, similar
- 4 to I think what I showed. I would say the absolute
- 5 value of the numbers that are shown there are low
- 6 because of the denominator used to calculate them.
- 7 all rifles -- or, excuse me, all firearms versus
- 8 rifles.
- Q Understood. What about the pattern of
- 10 growth from 2 percent in 1990 to 18 percent in
- 11 2021?
- 12 A Again, as I said, generally it's
- 13 directionally correct. My estimations were in
- 14 terms of part of the market a little bit higher
- 15 because I was looking strictly at rifles, not all
- 16 handguns and shotguns and other things, but, yes,
- 17 directionally it's the same.
- 18 There are economic downturns that are
- 19 indicated there, specifically 2010 was a slow year,
- 20 and there have been different times. I think, like
- 21 some of the financial crises affected the overall
- 22 growth, but in general if you were to draw a trend
- 23 line from 1990 to 2021 it's definitely a positive
- 24 slope and going up with individual variations based

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- 1 on some years being less than previous years but
- 2 the trend line is definitely a growth trend line.
- Q And would you agree that the slope gets a 3
- 4 lot steeper maybe starting 2007, 2008?
- 5 A Based on the data Mr. Klarevas has in
- 6 this table I would agree that, yes, it does get 7 steeper.
- Q Does that square with your experience,
- 9 does that jibe with your experience of the market?
- 10 A As I said during my time period, yes. In
- 11 the data analysis I did for times prior to my
- 12 involvement in the MSR market, prior to the
- 13 expiration of the assault weapons ban in 2004, you
- 14 know, it was a very slow-moving market,
- 15 consistently, you know, 150 to 200,000 units in
- 16 total going in, but then when the sales were able
- 17 to increase you'll notice that all of a sudden you
- 18 went up to, you know, six-digit production numbers
- 19 in certain years where, you know, people were
- 20 purchasing a lot of the products.
- 21 Q Okay. So without endorsing these
- 22 specific numbers, this growth pattern at least from
- 23 the mid 2000s onward is consistent with your
- 24 experience, the pattern?

- A The pattern and the trend are consistent
- 2 with my experience.
- Q Okay. And, again, not asking you to
- 4 vouch for these specific numbers, this last column
- 5 that Mr. Klarevas has, which I have to say, I'm not
- 6 a numbers person, it took me a while to figure out 7 how to read this column, what this column suggests
- 8 is that if these numbers were accurate, and we're
- 9 not saying they are, then half of the MSRs produced
- 10 between 1990 and 2021 were actually produced just
- 11 between 2015 and 2021 -- sorry, 2016 and 2021. So
- 12 that's this group here.
- 13 Without vouching for a specific
- 14 number, does that square with your view of the
- 15 market?
- 16 A Yeah, I believe that -- you know, as I
- 17 stated before, that the number of manufacturers
- 18 increased as well as the volumes they were
- 19 producing based on the rudimentary analysis I
- 20 conducted of the AFMER numbers during certain
- 21 sections of that time period.
- 22 So there's growth, and based on
- 23 Mr. Klarevas's numbers, if you accept those as, you
- 24 know, accurate, yeah, about 50 percent of them

Page 126 Page 128 1 particular. I reviewed Mr. Klarevas's comments on 1 produced in -- you know, from that 2016 to the 2021 2 time period. 2 it, but I have not gone back and personally read Q Well, just to be clear, these are NSSF 3 the survey and the details with regard to it. 3 MS. HELFRICH: All right. I'm going to 4 numbers, not Mr. Klarevas's, but that's okay, but I 4 5 want to be clear. I'm asking you whether your 5 stop sharing. 6 experience of the market is consistent with what's 6 I was hoping to go back to your 7 shown here. 7 report, but I seem to have lost it. Here we go. A As I stated previously, yes. The market 8 I'm going to share again. 9 has grown. I'd say in recent years it has grown Just a second. June, I don't think --10 more steadily or at a higher rate than it had 10 I don't remember whether I asked that the Klarevas 11 report be marked as Exhibit 2. I would like to ask 11 previously, and some of that was due to, like I 12 said, the assault weapons ban expiring and the 12 that it be marked as Exhibit 2. 13 availability of the product to more people in more 13 THE REPORTER: You had not. 14 configurations that weren't limited by what the 14 (Document was marked Exhibit 2 15 previous law had in it. 15 for identification.) 16 BY MS. HELFRICH: Q Okay. Now in terms of rebutting 17 Mr. Klarevas's report, I just want to ask you, did 17 Q Okay. Mr. Ronkainen, can you see your 18 you review the English survey? 18 report? 19 19 A English survey? A Yes. 20 Q Yes. Are you familiar with the English 20 Q I want to ask you about some statements 21 survey? 21 in your report. On page 2 you say -- let me find A I don't recall what that is. Can you 22 it. Well, now I can't find it. 23 show me what it is and I'll tell you if I've seen 23 Here we go: During my time in the 24 it? 24 firearms industry, demand and sales of commercial Page 127 Page 129 Q Yeah. I'm going to go back to sharing. 1 MSRs climbed markedly and steadily. 1 2 Can you see the chart again? 2 Do you see that? 3 3 Yes. A Yes. 4 Q Okay. So page 7 of Professor Klarevas's 4 When you say commercial sales -- sorry, 5 report, Section IIIA says Assault Weapons, and then 5 when you say sales of commercial MSRs, does 6 Section IIIAi says The English Survey. In 2021 6 commercial MSRs include any MSRs sold to law 7 Georgetown University professor William English 7 enforcement? 8 conducted a survey of gun owners. A Typically, no. Those would have been Have you reviewed that survey? 9 sold -- they are on some occasions sold, 10 A I have not reviewed that survey in 10 semiautomatic versions, to law enforcement agencies 11 particular. I've seen a reference of it in this 11 that require that, but by far and away the majority 12 document, but I have not gone through that survey 12 were sold to the general public as opposed to LE 13 personally to analyze the details that are there. 13 sales. Q Okay. Here on page 12, Section IIIAii, 14 Q When you report rifle sales to ATF, the 15 it's titled NSSF Publications. Did you review the 15 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and 16 NSSF publications that Mr. Klarevas is referring to 16 Explosives, when you report rifle sales that data 17 in this section of his report? 17 includes any sales to law enforcement, correct? 18 A As I said before, I didn't have access to 18 A Yes, it does. They're disposed of in 19 those. 19 commerce, so they would be included on that report. 20 Q Sorry for all the scrolling. 20 Q It does not include sales to the 21 Here on page 19 of his report, Section 21 military, correct? 22 IIIAiii, The Washington Post/Ipsos Survey, did you A Sales to the military, I believe, were 22 23 review the Washington Post/Ipsos survey? 23 not part of that. These are strictly ones that are 24 A I have not reviewed that survey in 24 into commerce.

33 (Pages 126 - 129)

Page 130 Q Okay.

- 2 A The rules for the AFMER reporting, you
- 3 know, delineate exactly what needs to be reported.
- 4 Based on my recollection of having read those, I
- 5 believe military sales are excluded from that.
- 6 Again, I'd have to go back and read that in detail
- 7 to confirm that for you.

1

- Q Okay. In this statement that we just are
- 9 looking at here, when you say demand and sales of
- 10 commercial MSRs climbed markedly and steadily, are 10
- 11 you referring to demand and sales at your companies
- 12 or in the market overall?
- A Specifically based on my recollection of
- 14 what was going on with our company, but, you know,
- 15 being involved in the industry you could see that
- 16 there were a lot of competitors coming into the
- 17 marketplace and the overall numbers of the products
- 18 being sold into commerce was increasing as well.
- So, I mean, our salespeople had access
- 20 to the specific data, albeit on the time lag that
- 21 happens by the reporting period. It's typically
- 22 trailing data by 12 to 18 months, I believe, based
- 23 on when the ATF finally generates the report. So,
- 24 you know, our experience was that sales were

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- 1 growing, both, you know, with Bushmaster,
- 2 Remington, DPMS, as well as what we saw our
- 3 competitors doing.
- Q Okay. Now other than that AFMER chart on
- 5 page 4, which we're going to look at in a second,
- 6 other than that AFMER chart you don't provide any
- 7 sales numbers in here, in your report, correct?
- A That is correct. 8
- 9 O Why not?
- 10 A Basically I only needed them to prove
- 11 what I had to, you know, the statements I was
- 12 making in the table. Specific sales data it's all
- 13 available, it's available in the references that I
- 14 have for my report. It's from the AFMER data, so
- 15 it would be redundant to do that I felt.
- Q So it's in the data from your report. Do
- 17 you mean the materials you reviewed?
- A Yes. It's available within that.
- Q In the Annual Firearms Manufacturing and
- 20 Export Reports?
- 21 A Yes.
- Q Okay. But as we said, that might include
- 23 sales to law enforcement, correct?
- 24 A Let's talk about that a little bit. You

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- 1 know, sales to law enforcement, yes, that would be
- 2 in there. It would be a very small percentage.
- 3 You look at the total volumes that were produced
- 4 and sold, if those volumes were going in any
- 5 quantities, any large percentage into law
- 6 enforcement, there would be so many guns in the
- 7 cars of the officers that are out there policing
- 8 our streets that it wouldn't be possible for them
- 9 to do anything but sit in the car themselves.

So, yes, there were sales, but to

11 claim that it's, you know, any significant

12 percentage is I think -- you know, it's incorrect.

13 Q Okay. Let me ask you, when you say that

14 are you talking about sales from your companies or

15 the market overall?

16 A I'm saying, you know, from sales from my

17 company and I would expect that by extrapolation

18 that it wouldn't be any different for other

19 companies. There aren't any other of the

20 competitors that we had that I'm aware of that were

- 21 selling exclusively into the LE market and not into
- 22 the commercial modern sporting rifle market.
- 23 Q Now, the BATF AFMER reports show
- 24 production of rifles, right, it doesn't separate

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- 1 out modern sporting rifles, correct?
  - 2 A That is correct. That data is
  - 3 confounded. So for a company like Remington that
  - 4 produced both types of products, you're not able to

  - 5 extract from the reported data, you know, which is
  - 6 which. I believe the NSSF data, as I understand 7 it, there was contact outside of the AFMER reports
  - 8 to get information from the companies firsthand as
  - 9 to what the actual breakdown was. As I said,
  - 10 though, I didn't have access to that information to
- 11 include it in my analysis.
- Q Okay. But I actually can't tell from ATF 12
- 13 data how many MSRs a particular company produced
- 14 because they're just going to list rifles, right?
- 15 MR. LOTHSON: Objection; misstates
- 16 testimony. That's not what he said.
- 17 BY MS. HELFRICH:
- 18 Q I'm asking.
- 19 A The data can be parsed in a way for
- 20 companies that produce modern sporting rifles
- 21 exclusively or nearly exclusively compared to gun
- 22 companies that produce both lines of products and
- 23 it obscures what the modern sporting rifles
- 24 component of their sales were.

34 (Pages 130 - 133)

	D 101		D 100
1	Page 134 For example, Springfield Armory	1	Page 136 disambiguate modern sporting rifles from rifles
	produces the M1A as well as a line of AR rifles. I		total by looking at ATF reports, AFMER reports,
	can't tell what the percentage is for them, I don't		right?
	have access to that information, but for a company	4	A You probably cannot
1	like Arrow Precision or another company that's	5	MR. LOTHSON: Objection.
1	producing exclusively ARs, that's data that I can	6	THE WITNESS: Go ahead.
1	rely upon to say, okay, that is truly AR sales,	7	MR. LOTHSON: I'll object. That's not
1	it's not commingled with other rifle sales; and		his testimony.
1	based on adding that up for known AR producers and		BY MS. HELFRICH:
1	excluding producers that, you know, have both	10	Q I'm asking. Can I disambiguate
1	product lines where it's impossible for me to tell		looking at just let me rephrase.
1	what's what percentage of the total number	12	Looking at just the AFMER reports, can
1	reported is MSRs, even with that, you know, it		I know the number of modern sporting rifles that
1	looks like based on the data analysis I've		were sold in a given year?
1	conducted, you know, you're looking at 30 you	15	A An exact number you would be unable to do
	know, anywhere from you know, arising from the		that. You can estimate it based upon companies
1	teens of percentages up to probably 25 to even 30		that sell only modern sporting rifles and excluding
1	percent of the total sales conservatively are	l .	others that sell a mixture, which tends to be a
	modern sporting rifles of the total number of		more conservative estimate of the number of guns
	rifles reported.		produced because you're disregarding or not able to
21			incorporate production volumes of modern sporting
	higher, but, again, I don't have the ability to		rifles from companies that offer both, you can't
	disambiguate that data to be able to tell, okay,		disambiguate their data, but for ones that where
1	Remington Arms from Ilion, New York, produced		you know that their sole product lines are
	Page 135		Page 137
1	53,207 or something like that. That's data and	1	MSR-based you can add those up and come up with an
	information that the NSSF was able to get via		estimation of what the sales are. That's what I've
3	contact through additional	3	done.
4	(Audio Interruption.)	4	Q But you haven't stated that number in the
5	MS. HELFRICH: I'm sorry. Can someone	5	report. You haven't stated an annual total of MSRs
6	mute?	6	produced in your report. You've only given data
7	MR. LOTHSON: That would be Troy Owens is	7	for Bushmaster and DPMS, correct?
8	unmuted.	8	A Because that was data that I was able to,
9	Troy, we're hearing your conversation	9	you know, look at and answer based on my own
10	relative to a different case.	10	personal experience. For companies outside of the
11	THE REPORTER: I just muted him, but I	11	Remington Arms Company and Bushmaster and DPMS and
12	would like to hear the end of the answer again	12	AAC, I have to use my knowledge of the industry to
13	because he was speaking over you. You said "That's	13	say who's producing what.
14	data and information that the NSSF was able to get	14	You know, I can look at the AFMER list
15	via contact through additional"	l .	and I can say that, okay, Rock River Arms, they're
16			producing exclusively modern sporting rifles, so
1	was able to get via contact directly with the		their number, we'll add that to the tally of guns
	companies for their own disambiguated production		being produced. For somebody like Sturm Ruger or
	numbers for modern sporting rifles.		Remington, some portion of what they're producing
20	BY MS. HELFRICH:		and reporting is modern sporting rifles. I'm not
21	Q Okay. I asked you a while ago why you		able to disambiguate that, so I'll disregard it.
	didn't include sales numbers and you said it was in	22	But using the ones of known producers
	the materials reviewed so you didn't think you		of modern sporting rifles that I was able to do
24	needed to repeat it, but in actual fact I can't	24	based on my own personal knowledge and experience

35 (Pages 134 - 137)

1	Page 138		Page 140
	with the competitors that were in the marketplace I	1	Do you see that statement?
	was able to develop, you know, what their	2	,
	approximate sales numbers were and, as I said, it's	3	Q At the time you wrote the report what was
	a conservative estimate. It is actually probably		your basis for saying that this was a market-wide
1	it isn't probably, it is higher, but I'm not able		sales expansion?
	to tell you exactly how much higher.	6	,
7	The NSSF data may help that because		exact amount or the magnitude of same I didn't have
	they did actually reach out to the firearms		that number. That was actually something that I
	manufacturers for disambiguation of that data. I		needed to do the analysis on to be able to report
	didn't, and I didn't have access to their numbers		that. That was not done, but we could see based on
	to run myself when I did my analysis.		the fact that our sales were peaking that the same
12	Q So when you did your analysis did you		thing was happening at other companies.
1	come up with an estimate using the method you've	13	There was a lot of advertising.
1	described of annual sales of MSRs for the years		There's, you know, information from point of sale
1	that you were in the firearms industry or for the		that, you know, not only was our product moving but
	years when you were director of product development		
	for MSRs?		it's an anecdotal recollection of what was going on
18	A I did not go through and do that	18	within the market.
19		19	Q Okay. Going back to the earlier
	Bushmaster and DPMS. The more extensive look at		statement on page 2 that during my time in the
	overall within the industry wasn't in place at that		firearms industry demand and sales of commercial
	time.	1	MSRs climbed markedly and steadily, do you remember
23	Q What do you mean wasn't in place?		we talked about that sentence?
24	A I hadn't done the analysis at that time.	24	A Yes.
	Page 139		Page 141
1	Q At the time	1	Q So I want to ask you about well, let
2	A That's not in my report.		me find it. I realized I can highlight these and
3	Q of your report?	3	they'll be easier to see. I'm a little slow
4	, i	4	
5	A The overall sales numbers are not in the	5	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
6	report.		steadily, I would like you to flesh that out for
7	Q And when you wrote the report you had not	7	me. What do you mean by markedly?
8	done that analysis?	8	, , , , , ,
9	A I had not completed the analysis at that		being Remington, DPMS, and Bushmaster, the sales
	point.		volumes increased. There was year-to-year
11	Q Have you completed that analysis now?		variation, there was occasions where you had
12	A Rudimentary pass at it, yes, I have.		contraction, but to throw a trend line on it the
13	Q Okay. All right. I want to ask a few	1	growth was positive. In some cases, you know, the
1	more questions. We're very close to lunch, I	1	production numbers would jump a hundred percent
1	promise you.		year over year, in other cases they would decline
16	Okay. This is page 4 of your report.		some, but the general trend was upward and it was
1	I'm going to read the first sentence of this		steadily upward.
1	paragraph here: As a family of companies, with	18	• •
19	Remington as the head, we reviewed the marketplace		you want to define steadily. Is it always
20	1		increasing? No, there were times when economic
21			conditions in the marketplace caused a downturn in
	which confirmed that this was a market-wide sales		the market for Remington and for the market in
	expansion and not a phenomenon experienced only by		
24	Remington/Bushmaster/DPMS.	24	increasing, was positive slope, and was steady.

36 (Pages 138 - 141)

Dec. 142	P 144
Page 142  1 Q Okay. Not to be a noodge, but isn't a	Page 144  1 to break for lunch. So 30 minutes, is that enough
1 Q Okay. Not to be a noodge, but isn't a 2 trend line always steady?	2 time?
3 A Generally I would agree with you, yes.	3 THE WITNESS: Sounds good.
	4 MS. HELFRICH: Okay. Thank you, and
5 upward, is it still correct to say that the growth	5 we'll see you back here well, let's call it
6 is steady?	6 12:40 Central Time.
7 A With the annual and year-to-year	7 MR. LOTHSON: Gretchen, may I ask and
8 downturns steadily is not maybe the most succinct	8 we're off the record now I assume.
9 way of saying that. It was looking at it over a	9 MS. HELFRICH: That's fine.
10 period of time, the years you had contractions,	(Whereupon, a recess was taken
11 follow-up years were growth, and the level was to	at 1:07 p.m. ET and resumed at
12 above what it had been previously.	12 1:41 p.m. ET as follows:)
So in general, yes, it was growing.	13 BY MS. HELFRICH:
14 Steadily implying that there was no decline, well,	14 Q Mr. Ronkainen, I want to ask you about
15 maybe that's not an accurate statement completely,	15 the innovations you talk about in your report. I
16 but, you know, in general, as I've stated, the	16 want to talk about them individually, and I want to
17 market was growing, sales were growing.	17 understand what they are but I also want to
18 Q Let's look at this chart again, the AFMER	18 understand which ones happened while you were in
19 production values. For DPMS you have a value at	19 charge of product development or if any of them are
20 2007 of 58,674 rifles produced?	20 from other time periods, okay?
21 A Yep.	21 A Okay.
22 Q Net of exports, 58,269. Eight years	22 Q All right. On page 2 of your report, and
23 later in 2015 you're at a lower number 50,455.	23 I will share it, can you see the chart?
24 You've gone way up. You've gone way down. Are you	24 A Yes.
Page 143	Page 145
Page 143 1 saying that you would characterize that as steady?	Page 145  1 Q All right. I'm going to page 2. You
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Page 146 Page 148 1 Winchester, that same case, the body of the case we 1 are probably the majority of them. You know, who 2 all know and understand, it looks like a bottleneck 2 knows. I won't even offer a percentage, but the 3 case, the diameter of the neck where the bullet 3 .308 family, though, there are enough other options 4 actually is seated in the cartridge can vary in 4 there that, you know, the .308/7.62x51, is it 50 5 diameter based on, you know, the particular needs 5 percent, is it 40 percent, is it 70 percent? I 6 of the gun. 6 don't have that information, and I'm not sure how 7 So, for example, if a bullet is in the 7 I'd get it. 8 243-thousandths diameter there's a cartridge called Q Okay. All right. So why was Remington 9 .243 Win, which the actual dimensions of the bullet 9 interested in modifying the gas system design to 10 and that may differ by a few thousandths but it 10 work with other cartridges? 11 uses the .308 cartridge with the shoulder that's on 11 A Well, for other applications for the 12 there where it's neck down just with the reduced 12 AR-15, for instance, as I mentioned here, the .204 13 diameter to hold the smaller bullet. Likewise, the 13 Ruger was a cartridge that was developed primarily 14 .260 Remington, 7mm-08 are other children of the 14 for varmint hunting. So people that wanted to hunt 15 parent .308 cartridge. 15 coyotes or other type of game like that wanted to 16 There are other cartridges that have 16 utilize an AR MSR-style firearm that was capable of 17 been developed that don't use the .308 as the 17 shooting .204 Rugers. 18 basis, as the parent case for it. Some of the PRC 18 So first you have to create the barrel 19 cartridges which have come out in the last several 19 with the chamber that is for the .204 Ruger because 20 years utilize a newly designed cartridge that's 20 the .204 Ruger will not shoot safely within a .223, 21 approximately the size of a .308. It fits within 21 and then the pressure time characteristics of the 22 the envelope of what the AR-10 or other platforms 22 cartridge as the bullet is moving down the barrel 23 affect the amount of gas and the pressure that's 23 that are capable of handling .308s but aren't 24 necessarily dimensionally the same as the .308. 24 available for operating the action. As we Page 147 1 discussed previously, the AR-15 basically bleeds 1 It's the shoulder may be in a different position, 2 the body diameters may be larger or smaller as the 2 off gas and puts it inside of the bullet in order

- 3 case may be, so there are differences dimensionally
- 4 in other cases.
- But when I say parent I'm talking
- 6 about other calibers, other cartridges that are
- 7 reliant upon the parent case with modifications, as
- 8 I've discussed.
- Q Do you know roughly in the market for
- 10 AR-15 platform MSRs what percentage are chambered
- 11 in .223 or 5.56?
- A With any great degree of specificity, no.
- 13 I would say that the majority, more than 50
- 14 percent, of the MSRs made are for cartridges in
- 15 that range, but, you know, to hang a number, an
- 16 exact number on it, I don't have that information
- 17 and it's not available through, you know, the BATF
- 18 or others that I'm aware of.
- 19 Q Okay. Same question for the .308
- 20 Win/7.62 with regard to the AR-10 platform, can you
- 21 give me a percentage of AR-10 style MSRs that are
- 22 chambered in these calibers, these cartridges?
- A Again, there's not any cartridge-specific
- 24 data. Most -- of the AR-15, the .223 and the 5.56

- 3 to operate the action, and the pressure time
- 4 characteristics and pressure displacement
- 5 characteristics of the .204 Ruger cartridge are
- 6 different than the -- than the .223. So you have
- 7 to modify the design in order to make the gun
- 8 function reliably with that cartridge.
- Q Okay. Let me ask you some specific
- 10 questions about the .204 Ruger, but before I do
- 11 that I think you said, and I'm not trying to put
- 12 words in your mouth so tell me if this is right,
- 13 you said that one of the motivations for modifying
- 14 the gas system was to be able to use AR-15s or
- 15 AR-10s for other purposes like varmint hunting?
- 16 A It was to utilize that cartridge for
- 17 people that wanted to varmint hunt with it. A .223
- 18 is a perfectly acceptable gun for using for varmint
- 19 hunting. The .204 Ruger has the slight advantage
- 20 in terms of it has a higher muzzle velocity and the
- 21 arc of the bullet as it's flying through the air,
- 22 it's not as much of a rainbow, it's a flatter 23 shooting cartridge. So --
- 24 Q So let me ask you to explain that

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- 1 because -- I'm sorry to interrupt you, but I want
- 2 to go carefully and make a clean record about this
- 3 because I want to understand the terms.
- 4 You say -- you describe the .204 Ruger
- 5 as a high velocity, flat shooting cartridge adapted
- 6 to permit the ethical and reliable harvesting of
- 7 predators and varmints using AR-15 type platform
- 8 MSRs, right?
- 9 A That's what it says, yes.
- 10 Q Okay. Can you explain, I think you were
- 11 doing it right now, but can you explain what flat
- 12 shooting is?
- 13 A Okay. Every gun when it shoots a bullet
- 14 regardless of, you know, what type it is, there's
- 15 this thing called gravity in this world, and the
- 16 gravity starts pulling the bullet towards the
- 17 ground from the moment it leaves the muzzle until
- 18 it finally impacts the ground. The faster a
- 19 cartridge is traveling typically the less drop it
- 20 experiences, but it will always reach the ground.
- 21 It will have a trajectory that is flatter; that is,
- 22 it's not as arced in the center as, you know, other
- 23 cartridges perhaps with heavier bullets or
- 24 slower-moving bullets. So in this instance the

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- 1 goes down. How much and how -- how rainbow-like it
- 2 is is essentially, you know, a less desirable form
- 3 or a less desirable trajectory for that particular
- 4 bullet because it makes accuracy in hitting what
- 5 you're shooting at, especially at a longer
- 6 distance, more difficult because the drop that it
- 7 experiences from its maximum or its apogee of its
- 8 trajectory down to where you want it to impact is
- 9 more, and you have to estimate what that is if a
- 10 cartridge like the .204 Ruger, which has a higher
- 11 muzzle velocity, experiences less drop over a given
- 12 distance than a slower-moving bullet such as the
- 13 .223 or some other caliber.
- 14 Q So am I right in thinking that there is a
- 15 different meaning -- that there's a second meaning
- 16 for flat shooting that has to do with movement of
- 17 the muzzle as you fire the firearm?
- 18 A There is -- the term is used in that
- 19 same -- in an alternate thing, and the way you
- 20 describe it is yes. Flat shooting, the way you
- 21 describe it is a little less common usage of that
- 22 phrase.
- 23 Q That's not what you mean here, correct?
- 24 A That's not necessarily what I mean here.

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- 1 .204 Ruger, the muzzle velocities on that cartridge
- 2 as loaded are higher than what .223 Remingtons are.
- 3 One other thing to help everybody
- 4 understand is if a barrel is level and just, you
- 5 know, the center line is perfectly level, if you6 were to shoot a round and drop the bullet at the
- 7 same time, if you were physically able to do that,
- 8 the bullet would land at the ground at your feet
- 9 that you dropped, you manually dropped, at the same
- 10 time the bullet would impact the ground at some
- 11 distance out from the muzzle.
- 12 And so when we talk about flat
- 13 shooting, it's with respect to how far the bullet
- 14 will travel before it impacts the ground. The
- 15 farther it goes, the flatter shooting it is.
- There's also when you shoot sometimes,
- 17 this is intentional, the muzzle will be pointed
- 18 slightly upwards and so that gives it a launch-up,
- 19 so the bullet climbs until gravity is such that the
- 20 climbing ceases and then it starts to travel down
- 21 towards the ground. That is where, when I
- 22 mentioned the rainbow-type trajectory, that gives
- 23 you an idea. It's not a line, it's a curve, and in
- 24 the case of a rainbow it goes up and it eventually

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- 1 This is more with respect to the trajectory of the
- 2 bullet.
- 3 Q Okay. I just wanted to be absolutely
- 4 sure about that.
- 5 A Yeah.
- 6 Q What do you mean by ethical and reliable
- 7 harvesting of predators and varmints?
- 8 A When you're hunting it is the -- you
- 9 know, my personal belief this is, it is only
- 10 ethical to shoot and kill something in the most
- 11 humane fashion that you can. For instance, if
- 12 you're hunting coyotes or something like that that
- 13 when you shoot they die instantly or very, very
- 14 quickly after the shot takes place versus having
- 15 them wounded and dying at some later time from
- 16 their wounds or being injured and, you know, having
- 17 to live with those wounds for the rest of their
- 18 life.
- 19 So that boils down to the ethical and
- 20 reliability part of it.
- 21 Q So you said that's your personal opinion,
- 22 but is this a generally accepted understanding of
- 23 what ethical hunting is?
- 24 A Yes, it is.

39 (Pages 150 - 153)

Page 154 Page 156 1 Q Okay. 1 different and, you know, actually smaller than the 2 A And the fact that I share it personally, 2 .223 Remington. So you have to have the smaller 3 I believe that is the ethos of hunters in the 3 diameter and rifling to spin the bullet. You have 4 United States. Not to say it's an absolute perfect 4 to have the chamber machined into the barrel that 5 world and that everybody adheres to that, but I 5 corresponds with the dimensions of the .204 Ruger 6 would say that by far and away the majority of 6 rather than the .223. So there's a bunch of steps 7 hunters subscribe to that ethos. 7 that need to take place. Q Okay. And if you said ethical hunting, This cartridge is used across, you 9 this cartridge allows more ethical hunting, a 9 know, bolt-action rifles as well as, you know, 10 hunter would understand what you mean by that even 10 modern sporting rifles and other platforms for 11 if they don't agree? 11 varmint and predator hunting, so the dimensions are 12 A Yes. And, you know, for somebody that's 12 all known. It's the internal ballistic 13 against hunting they would potentially argue with 13 characteristics that are specific to the .204 Ruger 14 that require the adaptation of the gas system to 14 me about whether or not it's even ethical to hunt 15 animals, but in lines of my beliefs and, you know, 15 make the gun function reliably. 16 that, I believe what's stated there. 16 Q So if someone wanted to use a .204 Ruger 17 with an AR platform they'd have to buy a rifle? Q Okay. So what is it about flat shooting 18 that enhances the ability to ethically and reliably 18 A They would have to buy a rifle. You 19 know, that's one way of doing it. Given the AR's 19 harvest predators and varmints? 20 A Well, as I described, when you have a 20 modularity you could buy an upper receiver assembly 21 bullet's trajectory that's very arced, 21 for a .204 Ruger that would work there. The bolt, 22 rainbow-like, being able to consistently impact the 22 I believe, matches up with .223, but in the event 23 bullet where you want to to shoot accurately at 23 that it didn't you'd have to buy a bolt carrier 24 distance is more difficult with a bullet that's 24 assembly or a bolt carrier group for that Page 155 Page 157 1 flying slower and has a greater arc to it, there's 1 particular caliber. 2 more uncertainty as to exactly where it's going to 2 But the rest of the gun, you know, the 3 hit the target or the game that you're shooting at, 3 magazine would have to perhaps be specific for it, 4 there may be adaptations of it, but it would fit 4 and when you use a flatter shooting bullet the 5 bullet gets there faster, there's less climb, 5 within the lower receiver. But, yeah, you can do 6 there's better -- typically better accuracy at 6 it and you could also buy just a barrel assembly 7 distance for conducting the activity that you're 7 yourself and modify your upper receiver by taking 8 looking for, in this case predator hunting. 8 off an existing barrel and putting this one on in Q So when you developed this cartridge, and 9 its place to make the gun shoot. 10 let me clarify, this was developed during your 10 So there's several different avenues 11 tenure as director of product development for MSRs? 11 for adapting a modern sporting rifle to do this. A This actually was in the product line 12 The easiest way is to go ahead and purchase the gun 13 prior to my assuming responsibility, but it's a 13 outright, but there are other options for modifying 14 cartridge that's been available since, I believe, 14 existing guns or buying just an upper receiver 15 mid 2000s, somewhere in that time frame. I would 15 assembly for -- you know, for it, too, so that you 16 have to actually go back and look at literature to 16 could shoot this caliber. 17 see when Ruger introduced it. 17 Q Did Remington or Bushmaster, DPMS, any of

19 Ruger?
20 A Yes, Remington did, I believe Bushmaster
21 did, and I believe DPMS may have as well. I'd have
22 to review their catalog to be certain.
23 But, as I said, this all predated my

24 involvement with the commercial or the civilian MSR

18 your companies, produce MSRs chambered in .204

40 (Pages 154 - 157)

22 the existing ARs?

Q Okay. So this cartridge, when it was

19 invented you have to also create or someone has to

A As I said, yes, this -- the diameter of

20 also create MSRs chambered in this cartridge,

21 right, this isn't a cartridge you just stick into

24 the bullets for this particular cartridge are

Page 158 Page 160 1 side of the business. I know very early on when Q So what makes the .30 Rem AR cartridge 2 suitable for ethical and reliable harvesting of 2 the R-15 was offered by Remington .204 Ruger was an 3 deer-sized big game? 3 optional caliber for that. 4 Q And so help me understand the market and A The cartridge itself utilizes a .30 5 caliber bullet but does so with a cartridge that 5 the dynamics and the demand. Are you aiming 6 this -- aiming to sell this to people who already 6 fits within the confines of the AR-15 platform. 7 use AR-15s for something else and might want to 7 The length and the diameter of the cartridge are, 8 also use it for hunting or are you aiming it at 8 you know, such that they fit within that versus the 9 .308 which utilizes the same diameter bullet is a 9 hunters who have been using bolt-action rifles and 10 larger cartridge. The case for it is larger in 10 want to move to AR-15s or both or what? How did 11 that -- what was the aim? 11 diameter, the overall length of the cartridge, A The aim was both. You know, if there was 12 cartridges, is longer, and so it does not fit 12 13 somebody that was already hunting with an MSR it 13 within the AR-15 type platform and the -- the .30 14 Rem AR was developed specifically to fit inside 14 was to give them the ability to shoot the .204 15 that platform for use on deer hunting. 15 Ruger in a platform they were familiar with. If 16 there were people that were shooting bolt-action 16 Q And so when you developed this cartridge 17 rifles and were interested in, you know, trying out 17 did you also have to develop a rifle chamber to 18 an MSR platform for varmint shooting, I had offered 18 this cartridge or not? 19 19 them the opportunity to do that as well. A Yes. Yes. This was something that So it was really -- you know, both 20 really the authorship of this whole concept came 21 from Remington and DPMS. You can -- people hunt 21 aspects were avenues to getting the cartridge out 22 deer with .223 Remington, and you can shoot deer 22 there and addressing the interest based on what the 23 customers wanted. 23 with that and do it ethically and, you know, with 24 minimal risk of wounding an animal and not being 24 Q And do you know how many of those your Page 161 Page 159 1 able to recover it. 1 company sold? A I don't have specific information on 2 The larger bullets that the .30 Rem AR 3 that. It was a fairly -- fairly well-liked product 3 offered were better at that than .223 and better to 4 a greater distance. So that was the primary reason 4 and was in the product line for quite a few years. 5 for doing it. 5 It may have been there till the very end. I'd So when the cartridge was developed 6 actually, again, have to go back and confirm 6 7 the firearm had to be tested, so the gas system had 7 through the catalog, you know, when it was 8 to be developed and optimized to work with that 8 introduced and perhaps when it was finally -- you 9 know, if it ever ceased production when that was. 9 because, as we spoke about previously, the 10 pressure -- time and pressure displacement 10 Q All right. You also say on page 2 11 characteristics of the cartridge as the bullet is 11 beginning here: The .30 Rem AR cartridge was 12 developed to ethically and reliably harvest 12 moving down the barrel vary from cartridge to 13 cartridge. So a .308 is different than a .223, is 13 deer-sized big game using AR-15 type platform MSRs. 14 Did I read that correctly? 14 different than a .204 Ruger, and is different than 15 a .30 Rem AR. 15 A Yes. 16 Q Okay. So when -- was this developed --16 So you have to size the gas ports that 17 this is developed at Remington? 17 you have there and their distance down the barrel A This was developed at Remington in 18 so that you can reliably function the firearm. In 19 this case the magazine was also different. Most 19 conjunction with DPMS. At that time, you know, the 20 magazines that are used for .223/5.56 alternate 20 product development work that DPMS was doing was 21 actually conducted within Remington's R&D 21 feeding from side to side. They're a 22 double-stacked magazine and they feed rounds from 22 organization, and so the development of this 23 product took place at the R&D Center in 23 both sides into the chamber. 24 24 Elizabethtown, Kentucky. For this particular cartridge it was a

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- 1 little bit larger in diameter and so did not stack
- 2 as the .223 had inside the magazine, so the
- 3 magazine design was modified at the upper portion
- 4 where it presents the rounds for feeding such that
- 5 it always fed from one side and supported that
- 6 shell so that it would always go into the chamber.
- 7 If you tried to do it with a double stack, as I
- 8 understand it, the shells didn't want to stay in
- 9 the magazine and it caused a lot of malfunctions
- 10 with the firearm.
- 11 Q Okay. Do you know, how many MSRs
- 12 chambered in .30 Rem did you sell? And I should
- 13 correct myself and say .30 Rem AR.
- 14 A Yeah, I don't have that specific
- 15 information.
- 16 Q Again on page 2 of your report you say:
- 17 The .450 Bushmaster was created as a
- 18 straight-walled cartridge to meet the requirements
- 19 of states that do not permit the use of
- 20 bottlenecked cartridges for taking big game with
- 21 centerfire rifles.
- 22 Did I read that correctly?
- 23 A Yes, you read that correctly.
- 24 Q Bottlenecked cartridges, would that

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1 higher energy, and a longer range cartridge,

- 2 whereas most straight-walled cartridges tend to be
- 3 slightly lower velocity and more limited range, so
- 4 states that require straight-walled cartridges are
- 5 doing so because the ballistics of that
- 6 straight-walled cartridge are more in line with
- 7 what shotgun slugs and other means of hunting that
- 8 are typically employed and not putting other
- 9 hunters at risk for bullets that travel well beyond
- 10 where they were intended to to impact an animal.
- 11 Q I'm not sure I follow you, so let me ask
- 12 a few more questions.
- 13 A Sure.
- 14 Q When you say the bottlenecked cartridges,
- 15 I think you said this, the bottlenecked cartridges
- 16 have ballistics that were more like a shotgun; did
- 17 you say that?
- 18 A No, it's exactly the opposite. The
- 19 straight-walled cartridges have ballistics that are
- 20 more like a shotgun slug whereas the range of the
- 21 projectile is more limited than it would be with a
- 22 bottlenecked cartridge.
- And some of that, you know, boils down
- 24 to the velocity that the projectile has when it

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- 1 include .223 Rem and 5.56?
- 2 A Yes. You know what? As I was describing
- 3 previously, there's a shoulder that's present on
- 4 most cartridges, especially those used in the
- 5 modern sporting rifle platform. The state laws as
- 6 they're written for hunting cartridges in specific
- 7 states, and I think Illinois is one of these, is
- 8 that you're not allowed to use a cartridge for
- 9 hunting deer that is a bottlenecked cartridge. It
- 10 has to be a straight-walled; that is, the sides
- 11 from the base all the way up to where the bullet
- 12 are held are tapered but there's no shoulder
- 13 present on the case itself.
- 14 And so the .450 Bushmaster was what we
- 15 would call a straight-walled case. It was tapered
- 16 from the base of the shell up to where the bullet
- 17 was held without any bottleneck present in it
- 18 allowing its use in states that did not permit the
- 19 use of bottlenecked cartridges for taking big game.
- 20 Q What is your understanding of why states
- 21 prohibit bottlenecked cartridges in taking big
- 22 game?
- 23 A My understanding is that based on -- most
- 24 bottlenecked cartridges tend to be higher velocity,

- Page 165 1 leaves the muzzle of the barrel, it's on a
- 2 straight-walled cartridge typically lower or less
- 3 than it would be if it was fired from a
- 4 bottlenecked cartridge. And bottlenecked case is
- 5 probably the better way because I think cartridges
- 6 and cases may be part of what's confusing you. I
- 7 apologize for that. I try to be succinct --
- 8 Q No, that's not what's confusing me at
- 9 all. Don't worry about that.
- 10 So is the .450 Bushmaster higher or
- 11 lower velocity relative to a .223 or a 5.56?
- 12 A It is lower velocity and the bullets are
- 13 450-thousandths in diameter, so nearly twice as
- 14 large in diameter. Actually, almost exactly twice
- 15 as large in diameter as the .223.
- 16 Q And slower?
- 17 A And slower.
- 18 Q And, again, did you have to develop MSRs
- 19 that could utilize -- actual rifles that could
- 20 utilize this cartridge, that were chambered for
- 21 this cartridge?
- 22 A Yes, for the exact reasons we talked
- 23 about before. The internal ballistics of that
- 24 cartridge, the pressure that follows the bullet,

P. 166	P. 160
Page 166  1 and the pressure at different points forward from	Page 168
2 the breech face, the pressure time and pressure	1 developed specifically for the commercial market.
3 displacement characteristics of the cartridge are	2 Q Okay. I'm sorry. I thought you were
	3 saying it was a military rifle. That's fine.
4 different than .223, are different than .30 Rem AR,	4 Did the military ever express interest
5 are different than .204 Ruger, so you have to	5 in this design change?
6 optimize that. 7 Sometimes we typically will utilize	6 A Not that I'm aware of. It didn't happen 7 on my watch. The particular calibers that this was
7 Sometimes we typically will utilize 8 existing tap locations, so a distance from the end	8 offered in, the Gen II was offered in, were not
9 of the barrel out to where the gas is actually	
	9 ones that were in the military's inventory so if
10 tapped so that it can come back to the action.	10 they really didn't have interest in them, and there
11 There are several different standard lengths that	11 was a program subsequent to my time with the
12 are out there, carbine gas length carbine-length	12 company that whereas we'd had the individual
13 gas systems, mid-length gas systems, rifle-length	13 carbine program, which we'd spoken about a little
14 gas systems, pistol-length gas systems, so we would	14 bit previously, there was basically a new infantry
15 pick one of those lengths that was best for that	15 rifle where the firearm itself and the cartridge
16 particular cartridge and also would help with	16 that it utilized could be different than what the
17 reliability and functioning and then develop what	17 Army currently had.
18 the diameter of the gas port is that's drilled into	For the individual carbine you could
19 the barrel to tap that gas to operate the action so	19 vary from the 5.56 NATO or 7.62x51 NATO, but it was
20 you could have it function have the gun function	20 with the assumption of a lot of risk because you
21 reliably. 22 Q Okay. Near the bottom of page 2 you say:	21 had to produce the ammunition for it and develop
	22 the whole proposal of how you would produce that at
23 Innovations were not limited to only the adaptation	23 scale for the Army. So there were some fairly
24 of existing MSR platforms for new cartridges, but	24 significant technical hurdles to overcome in order
Page 167	Page 169
1 also included the creation of new MSR platforms	1 to implement a new cartridge.
2 that offered functional and performance advantages	2 But when the you know, they had a
3 over prior designs.	3 follow-on solicitation several years later, the
4 Did I read that correctly?	4 ultimate winner of that was SIG and they offer it's
5 A That's correct.	5 a 6.8 SIG, I believe, is the designation for the
6 Q Okay. When you say performance	6 round, so it uses a bullet that's about
7 advantages over prior designs, are you talking	7 270-thousandths in diameter rather than .223 or 6.8
8 about prior commercial designs, prior military	8 millimeters in diameter versus 5.56 and utilizes
9 designs, or both?	9 some new technology for the case and has distinct
10 A It would be both. For example, in the	10 performance advantages over conventional
11 example I cite here it's the DPMS Gen II, the DPMS	11 brass-cased ammo.
12 Gen II utilized the .308 family of cartridges, so	So the DPMS Gen II, you know, at some
13 that would be .308 Winchester, 7mm-08 Remington,	13 point after I was there may have they may have
14 6.5mm Creedmoor, and .243 Winchester, in a package	14 thought about providing it for solicitation. I'm
15 that was very nearly the same size as the AR-15.	15 not aware of it, though.
16 So the overall length of the receiver and the other	16 THE REPORTER: Excuse me. May I
17 componentry there were changed to make the gun a	17 interrupt for just a moment?
18 little bit smaller, little bit lighter, little bit	18 (Whereupon a discussion was
19 more easy to handle, yet provide the ballistics	held outside the record.)
20 that those cartridges provided in a smaller package	20 MS. HELFRICH: Okay. We'll go back on
21 than the AD 10	21 the record
21 than the AR-10.	21 the record.
22 Q And the DPMS Gen II, that's a military	22 BY MS. HELFRICH:

43 (Pages 166 - 169)

Page 170 Page 172 1 important subsystems within the original AR-based 1 company making it or coming up with their own 2 platforms. Could you explain what you mean by a 2 design that is the equivalent of it provided it 3 subsystem? 3 doesn't infringe upon any intellectual property. 4 A Subsystems in the context of what I've Q Is that common that the military looks at 5 used here are different parts of the firearm 5 some innovation on the commercial side and says we 6 assembly itself. That's one thing about the modern 6 like that, we'd like to have that on our rifles? 7 sporting rifle platform is it's modular, so trigger 7 A There has been some of that. You know, 8 groups can be exchanged from whatever was supplied 8 the desires and the flow go both ways. I think 9 with the gun, albeit ones that are -- select-fire 9 back to when we were doing the individual carbine 10 is not an option there. It's higher performance, 10 solicitation, the ACR, which was our submission 11 lower trigger pull force, things of that nature, 11 platform, the hand guard on that was for the 12 but not the ability to have the gun go to full 12 commercial gun molded plastic and there was an 13 automatic fire. 13 enhanced version that was, I believe, machined 14 14 aluminum. Well, we opted for a machined aluminum Hand guards are also a big area of 15 customization. A lot of hand guards are used for 15 hand guard that had features that were different 16 mounting lights, optics, bipods, things of similar 16 than what the commercial hand guard had. 17 17 nature that can be used or are useful when using For instance, with the use of night 18 the gun. And, you know, you can even get into 18 vision, electro-optics and stuff like that, there's 19 altering the -- like, say, the selector to have --19 a lot of cords and wiring that is associated with 20 be ambidextrous so that a right-handed or 20 the use of those type of objects on the gun. So 21 left-handed shooter can use it equally well versus 21 having a wire management means available built into 22 the standard AR or modern sporting rifle, it's set 22 the hand guard was viewed as very favorable by the 23 up and used typically for the right-handed shooter. 23 customer. It allowed us to sell something and they 24 So those are modifications that can take place. 24 could put whatever they felt they needed to have on Page 171 Page 173 1 Grips, if you find that the particular 1 that and have the cabling and the switches neatly 2 grip on the gun is at an angle that's uncomfortable 2 packaged so that they weren't hanging off in all 3 for your wrist you can actually buy grips that are 3 kinds of different directions and potentially there 4 tilted at a different degree that may be of more 4 to snag -- snag on things that would impede your 5 comfort. You can buy grips that have a rubber 5 use of the gun. 6 overlay that may feel better than the hard plastic. And so there were times that the It's -- basically when it's subsystems 7 government looked and said, hey, you know, I really 8 like quad rails, which means there's a Picatinny 8 it's all different componentry that can be attached 9 to the gun that may not necessarily affect the 9 rail on all four quadrants of the firearm, so 10 caliber or something like that, so it's addition of 10 there's one at 12 o'clock, 3 o'clock, 6 o'clock, 11 parts. 11 and 9 o'clock, all on the full length. There are 12 Q But these subsystems and the changes you 12 other times where they'll specify, you know, we 13 can make as a result of the modularity, these are 13 only want one at the 12 o'clock point or we want 14 all things you can do with commercial MSRs, 14 Picatinny rails up at the front as in a quad rail 15 correct, and with military rifles you have to do 15 but then slick sides going back. 16 what the military tells you to do? 16 So, you know, a lot of what the A That's correct. And the military in a 17 government chose to include in their solicitations 18 lot of cases likes or will prefer characteristics 18 was tied to, you know, stuff that they found useful 19 of a commercially available hand guard or something 19 that was available out in the commercial market 20 like that and they will write their specifications 21 around typically the hand guard that they prefer, 21 Q Okay. You say -- I want to ask a

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22 question about ambidextrous controls because I will

23 be honest and say I was left confused by this.

24 Were ambidextrous controls something that was

22 and so, you know, the people that are participating

23 in the solicitation have the option at that point

24 of sourcing the preferred hand guard from the

Page 174 Page 176 1 developed for military rifles? 1 non-ambidextrous. They're available as aftermarket A I believe that they were actually 2 parts so that if you were to desire that you could 3 developed on a commercial basis. Their 3 replace the selector on your gun with one that is 4 incorporation into military-specific platforms came 4 set up to be ambidextrous. 5 about after they were in existence on the 5 Some of the designs even have the 6 commercial side of the business, but I'd have to go 6 option of switching out the configuration of the 7 back and do some literature review to confirm that 7 switch that your thumb would push on or that you'd 8 that was actually the order that things happened 8 use to operate the selector. So you have 9 customizability in that sense in that you have 10 But, you know, if you were to look at 10 several different interchangeable knobs, if you 11 the specifications for the M4 and some of the 11 will, that you can push on and you get one that 12 variants there and the M16 they were typically 12 when you're shooting doesn't interfere with your 13 intended for right-handed shooters, so the selector 13 hand, doesn't dig in or anything like that. 14 there was such that the operating part that the 14 Q Okay. Just for my understanding you have 15 user interacted with was set up for use by a 15 this sentence on page 3: Stag Arms introduced 16 AR-type platforms designed and made available for 16 right-handed person and not a left-handed. Q The reason I'm asking is I had 17 left-handed shooters, allowing fired shells to not 18 understood, possibly erroneously, that the military 18 eject across and toward the left-handed user's face 19 generally doesn't have ambidextrous controls on its 19 and eyes. 20 20 firearms and if you're a left-handed person, like Did I read that correctly? 21 21 me, you're out of luck. That is correct. A That was their MO for a long time, that 22 What is Stag Arms? 23 it was you learned to shoot right-handed, you were 23 A Stag Arms is a firearms manufacturer that 24 going to be right-handed. Subsequently with the 24 produced left hand-specific modern sporting rifles. Page 175 Page 177 1 different solicitations the requirement for 1 DPMS also had what they called their lefty. I've 2 ambidextrous safety and controls were, you know, 2 never seen the DPMS lefty version, but that was 3 put in there, and sometimes it wasn't as --3 also a modern sporting rifle AR style that was 4 patterned for use by left-handers so that the 4 necessarily as a baseline requirement but it could 5 be as an optional requirement which would give you 5 shells ejected to the left rather than to the 6 essentially, you know, a little bit higher ranking 6 right. 7 when they go to score everything that, hey, look, 7 Q Okay. And Stag Arms was never part of 8 they've got ambidextrous controls. 8 the Remington family? That wasn't a baseline requirement, it 9 A No, it is not. It was another competitor 10 was an enhanced requirement or an optional 10 in the field. 11 requirement, so you get a few extra points in the 11 Okay; good. I understand. I understand. 12 grading process for offering that provided that it 12 On page 5 of your report you have 13 works and that it -- that it doesn't compromise 13 these two bullet points that are both preceded by 14 this phrase, "rifles intended for military use 14 reliability in any way. Q So sounds like the military is not too 15 are," and then the first bullet point is: Almost 16 concerned about lefties. Meaning left-handed 16 always select-fire, capable of firing 17 semiautomatically, one trigger pull equals one shot 17 people; let me be clear. 18 18 fired, as well as fully automatically, one trigger A Probably not as much as the general

45 (Pages 174 - 177)

pull equals gun fires repeatedly until the trigger

Q So tell me what you mean by almost. What

20 is released or the magazine is empty.

Correct?

Yes.

24 are the exceptions?

21

22

23

A

24 them are still standard, you know,

21 feature of commercial MSRs?

Q Are ambidextrous controls a common

A I believe they are on the higher end

23 guns, but as an entry-level gun I believe most of

19 public.

20

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- 1 A The exceptions would have been for sales
- 2 to some federal agencies that don't permit the use
- 3 of select-fire where they want semiauto
- 4 capabilities only for the weapons that they would
- 5 purchase for military rifles, and up above I did
- 6 say military use. I should have said
- 7 military/government use to be a little bit more
- 8 succinct or accurate there.
- 9 Q Okay.
- 10 A But the military in all the
- 11 specifications I've ever seen for individual
- 12 carbine and other weapon systems has been for
- 13 select-fire capability. They would just be for the
- 14 specific agencies that did not want that capability
- 15 in the hands of their agents.
- 16 Q Can you specify which agencies those are?
- 17 A I would have to go back and look. I
- 18 honestly -- I don't recall right now.
- 19 Q Okay. But these are law enforcement
- 20 agencies?
- 21 A No, these were actually federal
- 22 government agencies. So it could be potentially
- 23 Secret Service, although I would believe that they
- 24 would probably have select-fire. It could be FBI.

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- 1 It could be ATF. It would depend. And it would
- 2 state in the solicitation if it was something other
- 3 than select-fire what it had to be.
- 4 Q Let me clarify. So you would not
- 5 consider those law enforcement agencies?
- 6 A Well, I made the distinction law
- 7 enforcement agencies in my mind by my definition
- 8 are local law enforcement agencies, whether it be
- 9 state police, sheriffs, police departments, things
- 10 of that nature, versus government agencies such as
- 11 the FBI and other entities in the Department of
- 12 Justice, Secret Service, ATF, IRS, all of those
- 13 groups are -- you know, fall more under the -- by
- 14 my definition the governmental agencies. They do
- 15 have law enforcement functions, but my definition
- 16 of them is more as a government agency instead.
- 17 Q So when we were talking before about
- 18 sales to law enforcement were you excluding --
- 19 okay. Strike that.
- 20 Before we were talking about AFMER
- 21 data and you said you thought AFMER data included
- 22 sales to law enforcement. Did you mean only local
- 23 law enforcement?
- 24 A Yes, that's what I believe. Again, I'd

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- 1 have to do some more looking at what the reporting
- 2 requirements are.3 Q Okay.
- 4 A I know that the military deliveries are
- 5 explicitly excluded from those, but I didn't dig
- 6 deeper into the reporting requirements to see for
- 7 law enforcement agencies, whether they be a local
- 8 type of law enforcement agency as we just discussed
- 9 or a U.S. governmental agency, you know, how their
- 10 things were kind of -- I believe that the U.S.
- 11 governmental agencies probably permitted
- 11 governmental agencies probably permitted
- 12 select-fire and may not have had their stuff
- 13 counted as part of that, but the -- the local law
- 14 enforcement agencies were purchasing through law
- 15 enforcement channels, law enforcement sales
- 16 channels, specific distributors and stuff of that
- 17 nature, so they were dealing with a sales force
- 18 that was dealing exclusively with them.
- 19 There may have been occasion where a
- 20 department might have gone out and bought a gun off
- 21 the rack at some gun shop, but by far and away my
- 22 experience with the company their purchases were
- 23 coming through law enforcement-specific
- 24 distributors. So we would have to go back and

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- 1 check the reporting requirements to see how local
- 2 law enforcement sales were with respect to counting
- 3 in AFMER.
- 4 Q Okay. Let me ask another clarifying
- 5 question because I just want to have our terms
- 6 clear. When you were talking about law enforcement
- 7 sales you're talking about sales to law enforcement
- 8 agencies?
- 9 A Yeah, local law enforcement agencies.
- 10 Q So the reason I'm asking that is because
- 11 in Chicago individual police officers purchase
- 12 their own duty weapons sometimes.
- 13 A Okay.
- 14 Q And they just go to a gun store, buy the
- 15 weapon. I mean, they do the paperwork, whatever,
- 16 but that wouldn't be regarded as a sale to law
- 17 enforcement the way you're using the term?
- 18 A It probably would not, but they may be
- 19 going to a law enforcement sales only store, a
- 20 supplier or distributor with that. I'm not
- 21 familiar with how they conduct their business in
- 22 Chicago with respect to the specifications for
- 23 purchase. I'm sure the department outlines -- if
- 24 they have a restriction on where it can be

Page 182 Page 184 1 purchased, I'm sure they make the officers aware of 1 the military requires for its firearms are not 2 that. 2 always higher than the standards that a firearms 3 Q Okay. But generally when you're talking 3 manufacturer might impose on its own civilian MSRs? 4 about law enforcement sales you're talking about A As I said, the baseline requirements for 5 sales to law enforcement agencies? 5 all the guns is, you know, meeting the SAAMI 6 Yes. 6 requirements for safety. And that includes, as I 7 Okay. Thank you. 7 mentioned, drop, jar-off, rotation, firing of a Okay. Your second bullet point here, 8 proof round in the gun, which is an intentional 9 "rifles intended for military use are," I think you 9 overpressure cartridge to test the integrity of the 10 mean have: An extensive list of specifications and 10 locking system to ensure that it won't fail when 11 standards from the customer that the firearms must 11 using standard pressure rounds, and all that stuff. 12 meet related to the strength, ability to operate 12 So, yeah, there are times that the 13 reliably under extreme conditions, accuracy, 13 government will default to some industry standard, 14 expected useful life that MSRs for the civilian 14 but they really like to write their specs and they 15 market are not required to meet. 15 typically explicitly state something even if it is 16 Did I read that correctly? 16 just mirroring or parroting what the baseline 17 A Yes, you read that correctly. 17 applications are, your baseline requirements. 18 Q We talked before about those solicitation 18 Q Okay. I was actually thinking of 19 packets that might be 20 or 30 pages. Is that what 19 something different. So you say -- I think I'm 20 you're talking about here? 20 thinking of something different. You say there are 21 A Yes, the explicit statement of what the 21 standards related to accuracy, that the government 22 performance requirements are down to mean rounds 22 will have standards related to accuracy, correct? 23 between failure, barrel life, and, you know, 23 Yes. 24 acceptable accuracy, you know, how long that has to 24 You -- Remington or another manufacturer, Page 183 Page 185 1 be, environmental capabilities. 1 there are -- Strike that. Let me get this question A lot of these are specific military 2 right. 3 3 requirements and they sit on top of, you know, a There are commercial MSRs that are 4 list of requirements that SAAMI, the Sporting Arms 4 more accurate than comparable military rifles; is 5 and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute, have for 5 that not true? 6 safety of the gun. So there's drop testing that's A That is a truthful statement. You know, 7 conducted with these firearms to ensure that they 7 with the government's requirements they will say 8 don't discharge when testing is conducted, jar-off 8 accuracy at round level. So as you use a gun and 9 testing, rotation testing, environmental testing 9 as you shoot it the hot gases that propel the 10 that SAAMI specifies that they meet as well. 10 bullet down the barrel start to degrade the 11 That's kind of like ground zero. All of the guns, 11 interior of the barrel, and ultimately if you were 12 whether they're for commercial sales or for 12 to take and measure accuracy when the gun is brand 13 military and LE sales, have to meet that 13 new and at, you know, typical intervals, let's say 14 requirement. 14 1,000 round intervals or pick a number, you would 15 On top of that then the government 15 see over time as the barrel starts to exhibit wear 16 has, like I mentioned here, extensive list of 16 on the interior sometimes a slight opening up or 17 specifications, and there have been occasions where 17 the accuracy decreases slightly. 18 18 we've read the product description that they The government will specify that at 19 provided and we have to point out to the 19 some given round level the accuracy must meet this 20 contracting officer that some of what they're 20 requirement. So they're allowing for the 21 asking for is actually in conflict with each other, 21 degradation in accuracy that takes place. 22 22 it's not possible to have both A and B because Typically those same requirements are 23 they're mutually exclusive capabilities. So... 23 not specified for a commercial gun. So, yes, 24 O And is it true that the standards that 24 commercial guns out of the box may exhibit and have

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Page 186 Page 188 1 has to do with trigger pull weight; is that 1 better accuracy and may have, you know, more 2 stringent accuracy requirements. Some of that is 2 correct? 3 related to their intended end use. 3 A There are different specifications for Q Meaning what? 4 the trigger pull weight depending upon the 5 A For instance, we'd spoken previously 5 particular product. Military specifications 6 about varmint rifles. Varmint rifles you're 6 generally, if memory serves me, are in the five and 7 shooting at very small targets, very small animals 7 a half to seven-pound range, and for some trigger 8 or what have you at long distances. Those it helps 8 systems in commercial modern sporting rifles it 9 very much at that point that the gun be accurate so 9 would be less than that. 10 that you're able to actually hit what you're 10 And, again, it ties into the end use. 11 shooting at. It's a small target, it's at a great 11 On a battle rifle you would want to ensure that 12 distance. 12 when the trigger pulled it was deliberate versus 13 For the military the typical target is 13 when you're using an MSR in your varmint hunting 14 a man-sized target and, you know, the allowed 14 you don't want to have to exert a high amount of 15 deviation from one hole out to that is measured 15 force because it tends to make the gun move when 16 you're trying to make your shot. 16 typically in minutes of angle, which is a common 17 17 terminology that's used across the firearms So trigger pull is one factor that 18 industry both for commercial and for military work, 18 changes, and the specification is really dependent 19 upon the customer. 19 and what the government cares about is that my gun 20 lasts a long time and still shoots acceptably 20 Q So --21 21 versus the varmint hunter, they're not going to A Go ahead. 22 shoot at the same rate that the military 22 I'm sorry. Go ahead. 23 application does. You can imagine being involved 23 I was going to say that the varmint 24 in a firefight where you go through a battle pack 24 product or the target type products that are sold Page 187 Page 189 1 or more of ammunition in a very short period of 1 tend to be trigger pulls that are more in line with 2 time, the gun will get very hot and it would be 2 trending towards SAAMI minimums, down in the 3 subject to more wear than it would be if somebody 3 three-pound range, versus the military 4 is out varmint hunting or taking a shot every 15 4 specifications that are, you know, five and a half 5 or five to seven or eight pounds, whatever they 5 minutes or, you know, something like that. 6 So the accuracy requirements are 6 happen to be. 7 different, and it's -- they're interpreted 7 Those are typically called out -- you 8 differently and they're more related to what the 8 know, the military trigger pull force specs are 9 end use of the firearm is. 9 called out in the product specification. They 10 10 leave nothing to chance. Q Okay. So you're talking about two 11 dimensions, I think, two dimensions of accuracy. Q So a heavier trigger pull, all other 12 There's the -- you know, what the accuracy actually 12 things being equal, is going to be less likely to 13 is in terms of MOA and then there's how long it's 13 be accidentally -- you're less likely to 14 that accurate and whether it stays that accurate 14 accidentally discharge that firearm? 15 for a long period of time, right, or for over 15 A I believe that's the -- you know, the 16 numerous rounds? 16 thought process or the logic involved there, yes. A Exactly. It's measurement of accuracy 17 Q Why does SAAMI have a minimum trigger 18 over the number of rounds expended and accuracy is 18 pull weight? 19 not to degrade to the point that it exceeds the MOA A SAAMI has a minimum because some firearms 19 20 requirement in the product specification at that 20 with the trigger mechanisms that they actually have 21 given round level, and that's across multiple 21 could not be safely tested in jar-off below that 22 threshold, and so SAAMI as an organization that has 22 samples that you'd have and test. Q It's my understanding that another area 23 voluntary standards that are adhered to by all the 24 where civilian MSRs would differ from military MSRs 24 members basically said, listen, three pounds

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Page 192 Page 190 1 appears to be where we're at, for target triggers 1 across multiple samples. 2 and that we'll make an exception of two and a half 2 Q Okay. Another standard or another area 3 pounds, but they still require that you go through 3 of standards that you would get from the military

- 4 the SAAMI abuse test, as we call them, where you 5 conduct the jar-off test and that is 12 inches from
- 6 the lowest point on the firearm to a rubber mat
- 7 that's backed by concrete. The rubber mat is --
- 8 has a specified durometer. I want to say Shore B
- 9 75. I'd have to go back and read the specs to give 10 you the exact number.
- 11 Q I promise you, I'm not going to correct 12 you.
- 13 A Good. Good.
- 14 And you drop it in all six attitudes.
- 15 So you imagine that the gun is assumed to be a
- 16 prismatic object, it's got six sides on the box, so
- 17 you drop it from 12 inches measured from the mat to
- 18 the butt of the stock. Same from the muzzle, same
- 19 from the top, same from the bottom, same from the
- 20 right side, same from the left side. And that test
- 21 is conducted with the safety, or in this case, the
- 22 MSR, the selector, in the fire position.
- So the gun is ready to go, and it's
- 24 testing that you don't have a trigger mechanism

- 4 has to do with ability to operate reliably under
- 5 extreme conditions. Do you see that here?
- A Yes.
- 7 Okay. I had a question about the gas
- 8 piston operating system in the Remington ACR. It's
- 9 my understanding that that operating system was
- 10 actually designed in part to make the gun more
- 11 reliable in certain kinds of conditions and more
- 12 durable in certain kinds of conditions; is that
- 13 right?
- 14 A The gas piston system that's utilized on
- 15 the ACR and on the RGP and on other firearms that
- 16 utilize that same technology enhances reliability
- 17 in some situations, and I would say that, you know,
- 18 it's been my experience that that's pretty much
- 19 across the board.
- 20 The primary reason for that is in the
- 21 direct impingement system that was originally
- 22 designed by Eugene Stoner the gas itself is tapped
- 23 from the barrel, sent back through a gas tube, and
- 24 then blown through the gas key or the carrier key

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- 1 there that's subject to accidental release when
- 2 it's dropped from a 12-inch height onto that rubber
- 3 mat.
- 4 The same rubber mat is used for what's
- 5 called the drop test, which, you know, it sounds
- 6 like I just described a drop test but, in fact, the
- 7 drop test is conducted from a four-foot level from
- 8 the center of gravity of the firearm down to the
- 9 mat in the same six attitudes I described
- 10 previously, so butt, muzzle, right/left side, top,
- 11 and bottom. And on that when the test is conducted
- 12 there's actually a prime cartridge in place in the
- 13 firearm itself so that you'll know when the hammer,
- 14 in the case of an MSR, was released to cause the
- 15 gun to fire.
- 16 And then the final test is a rotation
- 17 test where, you know, I've been told by a lot of
- 18 the old-timers at Remington that was to simulate a
- 19 gun leaning against a fence that then rotated over
- 20 onto its right side or onto its left side, and we
- 21 test it with both, again, with the safety in the
- 22 fire position or selector in the fire position and
- 23 a prime cartridge in place there to confirm that,
- 24 you know, it doesn't discharge. And that's done

- Page 193 1 on top of the bolt carrier assembly or the bolt
- 2 carrier group into the interior of the bolt and
- 3 then that causes the bolt carrier to move
- 4 backwards, there's a cam path that rotates the bolt
- 5 head, disengages it from the locking lugs, and
- 6 everything proceeds on with, you know, ejecting the
- 7 spent shell and reloading a new cartridge, cocking
- 8 the hammer and everything else.
- The introduction of the gas and
- 10 anything that's entrained in it to the inside of
- 11 the bolt is something that gives you an item that
- 12 needs to be maintained. You have to clean that
- 13 more frequently to ensure reliable operation.
- 14 Now, there have been many different
- 15 technologies applied that enhance the reliability
- 16 of a direct impingement system, but the gas piston
- 17 system more or less divorced the introduction of
- 18 gas inside the bolt carrier group and kept it far
- 19 away from the interior of the upper receiver so
- 20 that you didn't introduce those fouling agents
- 21 inside of the bolt carrier group or the upper
- 22 receiver assembly.
- 23 Q Okay. Another example -- Strike that.
- 24 After these two bullet points you

Page 194 And ultimately we didn't win the 1 start the next paragraph by saying: When and where 1 2 appropriate, the knowledge and technologies gained 2 individual carbine competition, nobody did, but we 3 designing and testing military/law enforcement 3 found that technology useful and as a result we 4 rifles can find its way back into commercial/ 4 ported it over into our commercial MSRs. 5 consumer/civilian MSRs. Q So sometimes you have technology that's 6 Did I read that right? 6 too expensive for there to be a lot of demand on 7 Yes, you did. 7 the civilian side, the commercial side, right, Q Where would it not be appropriate for 8 technology that you've used in a military rifle 9 that transmission of technology to happen? 9 that's too expensive for the consumer market, 10 A Well, where it's prohibited by law. I 10 right? 11 mean, obviously trigger technologies for full auto 11 A There are occasions where, you know, that 12 firing would never find their way back into 12 happens. Ferritic nitrocarburization is an example 13 commercial/consumer/civilian MSRs. It's more the 13 of that. 14 application of process technologies, like the 14 Q And so that's limited you, say, to 15 example I cited with ferritic nitrocarburization 15 high-end commercial MSRs but not your 16 run-of-the-mill MSR? 16 that would be there, and it's also dependent to a 17 A Yeah, and I think that, you know, as that 17 certain degree upon what is the target market for 18 that particular MSR that you're selling, just like 18 becomes more common, there are more suppliers 19 with automobiles there are entry-level cars and 19 providing the service, it's essentially a heat 20 then there are, you know, the very desirable ones, 20 treatment process of the surface of the steel in 21 the high end, the Mercedes, the Cadillacs, the 21 the barrel that introduces nitrogen and carbon into 22 Ferraris and all those. 22 it to make it very hard and wear resistant, as 23 The cost for adding some of these 23 there are more people out there doing that I think 24 processes to those -- to the components in those 24 you're starting to see that technology find its way Page 195 1 guns makes them -- you know, basically can move 1 further and further down in the MSR, you know, 2 them out of the cost range where people could 2 product offering lineup so that it's becoming more 3 afford them. And so, for instance, the standard 3 common in guns that are, say, just above entry 4 chrome plating works very well, but in our 4 level. 5 experience the ferritic nitrocarburization worked Q So assuming it's legal to transfer some 6 better. It gave us extended barrel life beyond 6 technology from the military sphere to the 7 what we were able to get with standard chrome 7 commercial sphere we'll say. 8 plating. It was a little more expensive to effect 8 A Uh-huh. 9 that on the guns, but, you know, it was something Q That process is driven by demand on the 10 that for high-end guns people weren't -- you know, 10 commercial side, cost on the commercial side, you 11 cost really wasn't much of a consideration for 11 know, whether you can sell it on a commercial MSR; 12 that. You know, they were more willing to accept 12 is that right? 13 the added price increase that gave in terms of what

13 A Yeah. I mean, obviously you have to sell 14 the consumer that there's a benefit to the use of 15 this technology. It makes whatever -- you know, it 16 makes your barrel last longer or in the case of the 17 nickel boron treatment it makes your bolt carrier 18 assembly or bolt carrier group easier to clean. 19 You can remove the residue that's present that 20 comes in there from a direct impingement gun more 21 easily versus having to scrub very deliberately and 22 diligently to get everything cleaned up so that 23 your firearm continues to operate reliably. 24 And, you know --

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24 useful.

15

17

14 it gave them in terms of extended barrel life.

16 military rifles use ferritic nitrocarburization?

18 the individual carbine, so the ACR rifles we're

20 are offering that or did that. I'm not intimate

19 using that. There may be other competitors that

21 with what their offerings were for IC with regard

22 to all the points of technology that they use, but 23 it was something we found in our use that was very

Q Where does the military use or which

A We use that on our submission rifles for

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Page 198	Page 200
1 Q Okay. I'm sorry.	1 A Go ahead.
2 A the nickel boron is you know, it's	2 Q Is Remington Defense also a brand?
3 an added expense. It's probably on par or even	3 A It didn't start out to be that but
4 more so than what the ferritic nitrocarburization	4 eventually it was just to kind of help
5 is. So, you know, all the technologies probably	5 differentiate it in the minds of the purchasing
6 have their price point with, you know, at what	6 folks within DoD and that they were aware that
7 point the consumer will say, yeah, it's nice, but I	7 Remington was a firearm provider and, in fact, we
8 can't afford that.	8 had done military sales long before we had ever
9 So also there's a lot of you can	9 stood up the Remington Defense organization, but it
10 buy an entry-level AR MSR-style gun and you can buy	10 was to kind of drive home that, hey, listen, you're
11 the bolt group, bolt carrier assembly, bolt carrier	11 not dealing with folks that are going to be
12 group, as a separate part later on that has the	12 distracted with commercial product lines. They're
13 nickel boron treatment so you can upgrade that	13 here, they're dedicated to meeting your needs, and
14 component on a you know, strictly a part swap	14 so as a result we created the separate engineering
15 basis.	15 teams, separate production group within the factory
16 Q Mr. Ronkainen, I'm going to stop for a	16 up in Ilion, and separate marketing organization
17 second, we're going to stay on the record, but I'm	17 within the company.
18 going to ask you to pop back up a little higher	18 Q Okay. That is helpful. I was a little
19 because we're losing your mouth down below the	19 confused by, again, the organization.
20 screen and I know that the court reporter likes to	20 So I want to ask you about this next
21 be able to see people. It's easier for her to	21 statement or another statement in your report on
22 transcribe.	22 page 6. You say: All Remington Defense production
23 A Yep.	23 took place in a secured area of the manufacturing
	24 facility in Ilion, New York, separated from
Page 199  1 You say in your report, page 6:	Page 201 1 commercial production, even after all private
2 Notably, at Remington, we had an entirely separate	2 commercial MSR production was moved to Huntsville,
3 division devoted to military firearms development	3 Alabama.
4 and production (Remington Defense) to meet the	4 Did I read that correctly?
5 distinct needs of the separate military market.	5 A Yes, you did.
6 Did I read that right?	6 Q Okay. So you have this separate area in
7 A Yes, that's correct.	7 the Ilion facility for defense production, right?
8 Q Okay. So Remington Defense was not a	8 A That is correct.
9 separate company, correct?	9 Q How is it separated from the other
10 A No, it was a separate group. Remington	10 manufacturing that goes on there?
11 Defense was a subset of the organization that	11 A The area is physically separated from the
12 concentrated on military, law enforcement, and DoD	12 rest of the production facility. It was in a
13 product solicitations.	13 building on a floor, it was a I'll give you just
So we had a group of engineers that	14 a real quick rundown of what the Ilion facility was
15 were dedicated specifically to working on those	15 like.
16 products. Modern sporting rifles were part of it,	16 It was a World War I vintage
17 the other MSR, the modular sniper rifle that we	17 production facility, so it's multi-story buildings
18 talked about previously, was part of that, the	
19 precision sniper rifle was part of that, the	<ul><li>18 with elevators, freight elevators, for moving</li><li>19 products between floors. In some cases there were</li></ul>
20 compact sniper rifle were all part of that. So my	
21 team on that side, those engineers, worked	20 conveyor systems that allowed you to move product 21 between floors.
22 exclusively on military/government agency	
23 solicitations for those products and	The Remington Defense manufacturing
_	23 group was in an area that was physically separated
24 Q Is Remington	24 from the rest of the plant. Entry was you know,

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- 1 you had to have -- it had CASS badge entry, so
- 2 basically you had to scan in. If you were not
- 3 approved to be in there, you weren't allowed to be
- 4 in there, you had to be -- you know, had to have
- 5 somebody let you in. The assembly of the firearms
- 6 took place in that area. The production of the
- 7 parts would happen elsewhere in the plant, but the
- 8 assembly took place there.
- And then the firearms from there were
- 10 taken down to the gallery, which was in close
- 11 proximity to where the assembly area was, it was, I
- 12 think, one floor away and just, you know, a hundred
- 13 feet or so down a hallway, to be tested. So all of
- 14 the firearms were function tested and tested for
- 15 accuracy per whatever the specification, the
- 16 requirement, was for that particular program, if it
- 17 was weapons or if it was sampling, what have you,
- 18 and then the firearms were then taken back up to
- 19 the production area.
- 20 One of the reasons for this was, you
- 21 know, these were all select-fire guns, which are
- 22 considered to be NFAs, kind of, you know, in a
- 23 special subset, and the NFA is the National
- 24 Firearms Act firearm. Short-barreled rifles.
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- 1 short-barreled shotguns, things of that nature,
- 2 silencers, are NFA items that are still currently
- 3 allowed to be purchased and owned by individuals.
- Select-fire firearms produced after
- 5 1986, March or May of '86, as we talked about
- 6 previously, are not available for sale, and because
- 7 these were select-fire guns there was certain
- 8 additional security that was placed on top of that
- 9 besides what was security for the factory. They
- 10 were in a secured area inside the secured factory.
- 11 So they would come out for the
- 12 testing, that was a shared facility with the rest
- 13 of production, but then they would go back up for
- 14 subsequent packaging and shipment from that
- 15 dedicated area.
- Q Now, this security -- let me ask you to
- 17 be specific about what the security was for. First
- 18 of all, was the security required by law?
- A I don't believe it was, we could go back
- 20 and check, but it was an internal control that
- 21 Remington wanted to have so that you had control of
- 22 these essential, you know, items, these machine
- 23 guns, these select-fire weapons, that they wouldn't
- 24 find their way out of the plant.

- 1 And we utilized a similar method at
  - 2 the Elizabethtown facility that for our select-fire
  - 3 guns that were in the process of being developed

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- 4 and tested every night they went into a locked cage
- 5 that only select people had the keys to, and the
- 6 locked cage was inside of a locked room which,
- 7 again, was a second means of -- security cameras on
- 8 the doors so you could tell if anybody entered. It
- 9 was just to prevent any loss or potential theft of
- 10 an item that should not get out.
- Q Did the Department of Defense require you
- 12 to have any particular security measures?
- 13 A I believe they may have, I'm not familiar
- 14 with what those exactly were, but they would have
- 15 been specified. And as part of the inspection
- 16 process for production the government did send out
- 17 inspectors that not only inspected the product
- 18 being made but inspected the facility to ensure
- 19 that we complied with all the requirements that
- 20 they had in their -- whether it was part of the PD
- 21 or if it was something referenced within the
- 22 product description with regard to securing the
- 23 product while it was being made.
- 24 Q And by securing the product you mean --
- 1 or is it what you mean keeping anybody unauthorized
  - 2 from getting their hands on it?
  - A Yes, whether it be, you know, another
  - 4 employee of the company or, you know, somebody from
  - 5 the outside.
  - Q And is this because these are dangerous
  - 7 firearms or because this is secret?
  - 8 A Primarily it was because these are
- 9 firearms that are covered by the NFA Act, and up
- 10 and above what short-barreled rifles,
- 11 short-barreled shotguns were, these were
- 12 select-fire guns that the public was not allowed to
- 13 own.
- 14 People are able to possess machine
- 15 guns or, you know, fully automatic weapons that
- 16 were produced prior to March of -- or May of 1986
- 17 and they can sell those, they can possess them
- 18 legally provided they pass the background checks
- 19 and pay for the tax stamp. These were ones that
- 20 didn't qualify for that. They were obviously
- 21 produced post that date, and so they were secured
- 22 in that fashion just to prevent any accidental, you
- 23 know, loss of any of those.
- 24 Q Okay.

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Page 206 Page 208 1 A And there was also security at the front 1 gun they can be turned into that short of 2 gate of the factory and metal detectors. So, you 2 anodization or anything like that. 3 know, it wasn't like the rest of the production was So it wasn't like you could walk down 4 unmonitored. It was monitored. This was just an 4 the aisle and, you know, there was a whole tubful 5 added level of security that was utilized within 5 of select-fire lower receivers. They would have 6 the factory. 6 been secured as they were being produced to 7 Q You said, or I think you said, that the 7 prevent, you know, theft or pilferage. 8 rifles were assembled in this secured area? Q And what kind of machine is a receiver 9 made on? 10 Q Does that mean nothing was actually 10 A The receivers that we utilized started 11 manufactured in that area? 11 off life as a 7075 aluminum forging, so you would A Manufactured in terms of the assembly, 12 take a block of material, it would be heated up and 13 yes. Componentry for these would have been made 13 placed into some forging dies, and then basically 14 elsewhere within the factory or been provided --14 the dies would compress and put the outer shape on 15 you know, if it was an outside supplied item, it 15 the receiver for the lower receiver and for the 16 would have been shipped to this area for inventory 16 upper receiver. 17 17 until it was needed for production. Subsequent to that then you would take 18 Q Okay. But like, for example, a barrel 18 that forging and you would mount it in a machine, 19 would have been produced somewhere else, it 19 in our case it would have been a CNC machine, a 20 wouldn't have been produced or manufactured in that 20 computer numerically controlled machining center, 21 secured area? 21 and the actual machining is done to the features 22 A That is correct. The barrels, the 22 that are required on the gun. 23 machinery required to that, whether it's for the 23 In some cases the -- well, I think in 24 all cases the machining was done but the magazine 24 rotary forging operation or the machining and that Page 207 Page 209 1 well where the magazine fits in the lower part of 1 that happens after the barrel is made, you know, 2 after the riffling inside is formed, it was done on 2 the lower receiver needed to go through a broaching 3 shared equipment with the plant, and if it required 3 operation, which that's a special machining 4 special specifications that were different than 4 operation that helps to form the complex shape 5 what -- what normal production would be those would 5 that's there. It's difficult to make that shape 6 with just conventional machining. The radii in the 6 be adhered to as they were being made. 7 corners are fairly small, and there's a lot of 7 Q And what about the receivers, where were 8 cutter deflection as you try to reach in and 8 they manufactured? A Receivers were, I believe, for a period 9 machine it. So the best way and the most accurate 10 way was to broach it. 10 of time manufactured in Ilion. At the end of my 11 And then after that was done, after 11 tenure I don't know if the machining of the 12 receivers moved to Huntsville. I suspect it did, 12 all the machining was complete, they would go 13 through an anodization process which dips the 13 but I can't confirm that. Q Machining of the receivers for military 14 aluminum part into a bath that's controlled, it has 15 nitric acid and several other chemicals in it, and 15 rifles? That's what I'm asking about. A Yes. I would have to check on that and 16 electricity is applied to it and it essentially 17 see. I don't know if that moved or if they 17 turns the exterior surface of the aluminum into 18 retained that capability in-house in Ilion. 18 aluminum oxide, which is a very hard ceramic 19 material and gives the good wear characteristics 19 Q When the receivers were being 20 that are noted for, you know, modern sporting 20 manufactured at Ilion they were not being 21 rifles for their upper and lower receivers for 21 manufactured in that secured area, correct? 22 those modern sporting rifles that utilize aluminum 22. A They were not manufactured in the secure 23 area, but they were controlled because obviously 23 upper and lower receivers. 24 24 once the features are in place for a select-fire Finally then it would go back up to

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Page 210 Page 212 1 the assembly area, all the other parts would end up 1 going to stick with what we have. 2 2 getting added to it, and at that point, you know, So it was the opportunity to comment. 3 that's where it would become the finished gun. 3 At most you might have gotten one or two cracks at Q Okay. And I'm sorry if you said this 4 it. They would offer revisions out there and we 5 already and I didn't hear it. You said that the 5 could look at it and say, well, no, you didn't 6 receivers once they're manufactured are controlled. 6 quite capture what I was saying, you didn't catch 7 How are they controlled? 7 the intent of what I meant, so let's -- you'd have 8 MR. LOTHSON: Objection; asked and 8 a second go-around. You would explain maybe a 9 answered. 9 little more explicitly what you were doing. 10 THE WITNESS: Yeah, we did talk about 10 Hopefully at that point then they got the gist of 11 this. The serial numbers are applied when the 11 exactly what you were saying and why and would 12 receivers are made, and those specific serial 12 modify the -- the solicitation appropriately. 13 numbers are registered as NFAs, in this case full 13 And I think in a lot of cases when 14 they heard that -- when they got that same feedback 14 auto receivers, and then paperwork is submitted to 15 the ATF. 15 from multiple members of industry that are 16 The receivers themselves while they 16 competitors it was like, hey, wait a minute, maybe 17 were in process were under some controls. Exactly 17 these guys know a little bit more about this than 18 what those were I had not witnessed that, but there 18 we do so maybe we ought to take what they're saying 19 was special control above and beyond what was 19 into consideration or maybe we need to be more 20 normally utilized for nonselect-fire lower 20 explicit about exactly what we're asking and why 21 receivers. 21 we're asking for it. 22 BY MS. HELFRICH: 22 Q Did you -- typically would you get 23 Q Okay. I have a few questions about the 23 solicitations from federal government agencies 24 solicitation process that you've talked about with 24 other than the military? In other words, was that Page 211 Page 213 1 regard to military rifles. When a solicitation was 1 solicitation process also something that those 2 issued you said there's a period where you give 2 other agencies went through? 3 feedback on the proposal, where you tell them like A Yes. I recall we did a program with the 4 that's not going to work or that's a bad idea or 4 Secret Service. We also did a few others that, you 5 something like that, but before you're actually 5 know, the process was very similar, perhaps just, 6 making any firearms you're commenting on the 6 you know, one notch less formal than what the DoD 7 proposal; is that right? 7 was but very much in that vein with reference to A Some proposals offered that opportunity. 8 appropriate military specifications for anodization 9 Others you straight-up took what they gave you. 9 type and thickness and properties and, you know, 10 With regard to being able to help or improve what 10 different things like that where they felt it was 11 they had there, that opportunity didn't exist. 11 important to be explicit about that or for them to 12 For our major proposals for the -- in 12 adopt the DoD standards for that so that they know 13 this case, you know, the individual carbine and for 13 it works well for the military, we ought to have 14 the sniper rifle programs they would offer a 14 the same thing for us, but they're very, very 15 similar. 15 pre-solicitation specification to industry to 16 review. So we got to see it. Any of our 16 Arguably sometimes a tad shorter, so 17 competitors were welcome to look at it and provide 17 instead of 20 to 30 pages sometimes 15 to 25. So 18 comment. 18 we're not talking, you know, a very brief one or 19 You gave that back to the program 19 two-page thing versus something that's 20 to 30 20 management office, which in most cases was the 20 pages. It's just a slightly lighter version of the 21 Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey, and, as I said 21 military product description. Q And were there ever solicitations from 22 before, they could take your feedback and say, hey, 22

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23 law enforcement agencies, like state and local law

24 enforcement agencies?

23 that's a great idea or they could take your

24 feedback and say, yeah, thanks but no thanks, we're

Page 214 A I recall one that was with the Los 2 Angeles Sheriff's Department. The particulars of 3 certainly triple digits. 3 it, oh, gosh, I don't remember exactly what they 4 were. I believe it was for MSRs. Occasionally for very large law 6 enforcement agencies, the what I would consider to 7 be local law enforcement agencies per our past 8 discussion or previous discussion, occasionally the 9 larger agencies there might do something that was 10 more in line with what the military did but in a

11 lot of cases, I would say by far the majority that 12 I recall, they just purchased their products

1

5

13 through law enforcement distribution channels,

14 which, you know, there's typically a couple of

15 distributors per state or per region that do that,

16 that actually make those sales, and they've got an

17 ongoing relationship with those particular

18 companies to -- you know, when they need something 18 gallery and it wasn't tested by non-Remington

19 they're able to specify I want this particular

20 thing, they would send them a purchase order, and

21 then that distributor would fulfill their order.

Q When you say this particular thing, are 23 they asking for some firearm that you're already

24 manufacturing or are they saying can you

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1 manufacture this in this way for us?

A It was sometimes both. I would say the 3 vast majority of what we sold through the local --4 to local law enforcement was stock product, but,

5 you know, they may have a request for use of a

6 certain type of stock or a certain trigger group or

7 something like that where if the volume of product 8 was sufficient it would be economically worthwhile

9 for Remington to provide that to them and we would

10 go ahead and create a specific SKU for that and the

11 bill of material and everything else that went into

12 the manufacture of that product for them.

13 But, again, that was in cases where

14 that was more than the onsies, twosies. I think

15 you probably had to start talking in excess of a

16 dozen or more weapons, you know, probably maybe

17 even 50 or a hundred before we would even entertain

18 that.

19 Q Okay. That's actually a small number. I

20 thought you were going to say a much higher number, 20 A Again, it happened so infrequently I'd

22 have to go back and look and see what the

23 volumes -- the requested product quantity was to

24 give you a definitive answer on it, but it wasn't

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1 for ones or twos. It was for something that was

2 probably approaching high double digits or

Q Okay. And you mentioned that part of the

5 process of a military solicitation or something

6 that might be included in a military solicitation

7 was a requirement to test the firearms in the

8 gallery at Ilion, correct?

A Yes. And that --

10 Q And --

11 Α Go ahead.

12 You said this testing was done by

13 Remington Defense personnel?

14 A Yes. When I was talking about the

15 production area being a separate area and then we

16 talked about the product being moved from there

17 down to the test area, the test area was the

19 Defense personnel. The employees that were doing

20 the testing were aware of the specific requirements

21 and the specific rigors of the tests that were

22 being conducted and they were different than what

23 the commercial testing might be.

24 So, for instance, we did a military

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1 contract with the Philippine Army and there was a 2 requirement for accuracy testing that be done on,

3 you know, a sample of the rifle, sample of the

4 number produced at some given frequency. Well, all

5 the guns were function tested, all the guns were

6 proof tested prior to function test. Then the

7 select quantity of whatever they were, every

8 hundredth gun or whatever, whatever the criteria

9 was for that particular contract, were then taken

10 over to the accuracy range in the gallery and

11 tested to confirm that they met the requirement.

12 So the testing was conducted by the

13 Remington Defense personnel as opposed to the

14 personnel that were normally in the gallery

15 conducting testing on the commercial products,

16 whether they be MSRs, bolt-action rifles, shotguns,

17 what have you.

18 Q So testing is done for civilian MSRs as 19 well?

A Yes. Yes. The testing takes place in

21 the gallery for them. There is the same

22 high-pressure round, the proof round requirement,

23 and then there's also functional requirements to

24 ensure that the guns operate as they're supposed

Page 218 Page 220 1 to. The specifics of that are listed in the 1 specifications for expectations on accuracy and 2 process records for that particular gun, and that's 2 what they were providing to the customer. So, you 3 where they reference for what testing they needed 3 know, if they say that I want trigger pull to be 4 to be -- needed to be conducted on those. 4 between 3.25 and 3.75 pounds, we needed to measure Q And when you say requirements for testing 5 that to ensure that we actually achieved that. And 6 in regard to a civilian MSR, you're talking about 6 likewise --7 requirements imposed by Remington itself? 7 Q And that's because -- sorry. A Imposed by Remington or by industry A And likewise for the accuracy 9 standards, by SAAMI. You know, SAAMI was the 9 requirements, if there was a special accuracy 10 requirement we would need to confirm that the 10 one --11 Q Okay. 11 firearm as it is being made actually conform to 12 A -- that, you know, since we adhered to 12 that. 13 SAAMI we agreed that we were going to proof test 13 Q And that's because when you're selling 14 our guns, so we fired a proof round in all of our 14 the firearm you're going to say this is the trigger 15 barrels to ensure that they met the requirements, 15 pull of this firearm and this is the accuracy 16 that they were safe and that. 16 rating of this firearm? 17 17 So there was some of that, but I would A In some cases that information is 18 say that most of the specifications that had to be 18 explicitly given to the customers. In others it's 19 met were ones that were internally generated. 19 not. 20 Q So not from requirements from customers? An example of that might be for a 21 A I would say that most customers don't 21 particular trigger group there are different 22 really -- wouldn't necessarily know how to specify 22 manufacturers that are out there that sell trigger 23 in exact or engineering terms the performance 23 components for use in modern sporting rifles. One 24 requirements that they had or that they wanted. So 24 company is Geissele. They're -- Geissele Page 219 Page 221 1 that typically came from, you know, our marketing 1 Automatics, they're from Pennsylvania, and they 2 folks when they're developing the specifications 2 started off as a company that exclusively made 3 for a particular firearm, hey, the accuracy needs 3 triggers and have since branched out into making 4 to be this and trigger pull needs to be that and, 4 full guns. 5 you know, as a result then the process records, 5 Now, they have many different 6 which is basically the recipe that's used for 6 iterations of their trigger groups that can provide 7 building and then ultimately testing the gun, 7 fairly large ranges or differences between the 8 lists, okay, you have to shoot five shots at a 8 particular models for what trigger pull they give. 9 hundred yards and accuracy of those five shots 9 They have some that are, you know, an M4 type of 10 cannot exceed 1.2 inches. You know, that's some 10 specification that will give you five and a half to 11 fictitious thing I just made up. 11 eight pounds of trigger pull consistently. They 12 12 have some that are intended for more, you know, In the course of testing reliability 13 and function in the gallery you'd have to shoot 13 better accuracy where the trigger pulls are 14 five rounds in order, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, 14 reduced. They might be three and a half pounds. 15 15 and then on the last round don't fire it but use So by specifying what the trigger 16 the charging handle to extract the round, extract 16 group is there's a certain understanding, may not 17 the live round to ensure that that works. 17 be directly stated within Remington literature or 18 So, again, the recipe or the 18 DPMS literature or Bushmaster literature or 19 directions for what testing needed to be done and 19 anybody's, that, no, it uses this Geissele trigger 20 how to do it were in the process records for making 20 system. Well, it's understood that that is a four 21 those products. 21 and a half pound trigger. Q So why would it be marketing that decided 22 Q Okay. 23 what testing had to be done? 23 A So we test to make sure that, you know, 24 A Well, marketing would provide the 24 when we put it together it, in fact, you know,

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Page 222 Page 224 1 adheres to what we said the specifications are for 1 even if there are also other reasons? 2 2 the firearm. A Yes. 3 Q Okay. Then I wanted to ask way back at 3 MS. HELFRICH: Okay. Mr. Ronkainen, I 4 the beginning we talked a little bit about the SHOT 4 just have a little bit more and then I'm going to 5 let you go. 5 Show. Did you --6 THE WITNESS: Would it be possible to 6 MR. LOTHSON: Objection. No, I don't 7 have a bio break right now for just a minute? 7 believe so. 8 MS. HELFRICH: Absolutely. Absolutely. 8 BY MS. HELFRICH: 9 Let's go five minutes. Q Okay. Well, then we're going to talk 10 THE WITNESS: All right. Thank you. 10 about the SHOT Show. Are you familiar with the 11 (Whereupon, a recess was taken 11 SHOT Show? 12 at 3:22 p.m. ET and resumed at 12 A Yes, I am familiar with the SHOT Show. 13 3:30 p.m. ET as follows:) 13 Q Can you tell me what that is? 14 BY MS. HELFRICH: 14 A The SHOT Show is a sporting and hunting Q I have just a few more questions and then 15 and outdoor trade show. It's an industry-wide show 16 I will let you go. Mr. Lothson may have some 16 sponsored by the NSSF where it's a trade show to 17 questions, and he'll have an opportunity to ask 17 bring together companies in the firearms business, 18 those when I'm done. 18 in the ammunition business, and in related I wanted to ask about hunting again 19 businesses together in a single forum so that their 20 because I actually wanted to ask about varmint 20 customers, their primary customers, the gun shops, 21 hunting and make sure that I understood what you 21 the distributors, and anybody that's involved with 22 said. It's always been my understanding that if 22 the industry, can see all of the wares in one 23 you're hunting game, an animal you're going to eat, 23 place. 24 you want to kill that animal with one shot so that 24 And so early on the SHOT Show rotated Page 225 Page 223 1 you don't destroy the meat, correct? 1 locations. I recall attending in Dallas and in 2 That's correct. 2 Atlanta and in Orlando. Recently, as in probably 3 Q And in addition, you want to fire one 3 the last 10 or 15 years, it has been resident in 4 shot because that's the most ethical way to kill 4 Las Vegas. It was determined that, you know, Las 5 the animal, correct? 5 Vegas was a very good venue because of the large A It's the most humane way to do it. 6 number of hotel rooms available, the venues for 6 7 Q Okay. Is that also true for varmints? 7 holding a convention or a gathering of that size, A Some varmints actually if you're hunting 8 and so they have held it there for, gosh, like I 9 in the wintertime you can get the fur from them. 9 said, probably the last 15 years, 12 to 15 years. 10 So it's a means of -- you know, some people trap 10 And it's an --11 foxes, coyotes, or whatever for the fur. It's 11 Q And did you --12 12 another means of harvesting the animal to get the A Go ahead. 13 13 fur from it and so again --Q No, you go ahead. 14 Q So you still want one clean shot? I'm 14 A I was going to say, it's an opportunity 15 sorry. I'm sorry. 15 to walk around. For instance, for myself and my A You want one clean shot. It serves a 16 business I've attended, and I meet with customers 17 purpose there in that it doesn't damage the pelt to 17 there, potential customers. I get an opportunity 18 the degree that a larger caliber would, and it's 18 to kind of bring myself up to speed with what's 19 also you want the same humane treatment of the 19 going on in the industry, see new developments, 20 animal. You want to kill it with one shot quickly 20 and, you know, things of that nature. There's -- you know, what we found --21 so that there's no prolonged suffering available or 21 22 happening there. 22 what I found as an engineer within the industry is Q Okay. So generally you want one shot, 23 that there's a lot of -- there's a lot of friends 24 kill the animal, that's the ethical way to do it 24 that you meet, former co-workers, stuff like that

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Page 228 Page 226 1 that used to work for, say, Marlin Firearms and are 1 and LE product development, DoD/military/LOD, DoD, 2 now with Ruger or something like that, it's an 2 you know the job, my first assignment there, that 3 opportunity to get together, say hi, maybe go out 3 was when we -- I started attending regularly, and I 4 to dinner or whatever, as well as conduct real 4 believe I only missed one time in my tenure and 5 business other than just catching up with friends, 5 that's when we had a solicitation for it was a 6 look for potential customers, contracts, see how 6 government program that was due like a week after 7 the SHOT Show and I really felt that at that time 7 products that you may have designed are actually 8 received by the public. So you can kind of get 8 it was more important that I remain in 9 some feedback on that in a way outside of what the 9 Elizabethtown with my team to support them rather 10 sales channel provides. You can be the little fly 10 than, you know, go to the SHOT Show. 11 on the wall by something you designed and talking 11 So that's the one time I recall that I 12 didn't attend after I was a director, but sans that 12 to some customer and they say, you know, this is 13 the dumbest thing I've ever seen, why on earth 13 one time, you know, I believe I attended every 14 would they do that, and it's like mental note, 14 year. 15 okay, they don't like that. So... 15 Well, in your experience of the SHOT Show 16 did you see changes in the way that MSRs were 16 Q Did that ever happen to you? 17 A Probably not at SHOT Show, but I've had 17 displayed or marketed there? 18 people offer unfiltered feedback on some of what 18 A I think I saw changes in the way firearms 19 I've worked on and, you know, anonymously, and it's 19 and everything was displayed differently and 20 like okay. Sometimes, you know, you just say, 20 marketed there. It wasn't just MSRs. 21 well, you know, I did work on that, I developed 21 Early on, you know, you could say back 22 that, and it's like there's all kinds of stuttering 22 in the '80s and possibly even early '90s, the SHOT 23 and fumbling over themselves to try to get out of 23 Show was a good ole boy show and there were not 24 that awkward situation, but it is what it is. We 24 very many women, females that were there that were Page 227 Page 229 1 all have opinions on things, and theirs is as valid 1 in attendance, and as a result sometimes the 2 as mine is on other objects, rather other subjects. 2 culture would be, construed by modern standards, it 3 So... 3 would be a little uncouth. You know, there was Q Did you attend the SHOT Show regularly 4 just things that were said and done that you 4 5 wouldn't do today. That said --5 throughout your career? Q Are you talking about the '90s? A When I was with Remington as an engineer 7 Talking about the '90s. 7 we typically attended only when we had a large 8 8 product introduction that took place at the SHOT Q Okay. 9 Show. '80s and '90s. You know, we all I think 10 So, for example, when we did the Model 10 can understand that. If we didn't live through it 11 at least we have awareness of it. 11 700 EtronX I had the opportunity to visit the SHOT 12 I think the marketing has changed so 12 Show. Part of that is to provide some technical 13 that it's a lot more inclusive. It's gender 13 expertise to the sales team to explain to them 14 really what this thing is and if, for instance, a 14 inclusive. There have been different slants in 15 that, but, you know, quite honestly, that's the 15 customer is interested in the product but just 16 doesn't understand it you have somebody there that 16 primary difference I saw. 17 can give them a good technical explanation that a 17 Q Any specific differences with regard to 18 layman can understand. It's not all engineering 18 MSRs? 19 speak. You can equate this to, you know, words and 19 A Nothing that comes to the forefront of my

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20 mind right now. There may have been more pictures

21 of females with MSRs, there may have been more

22 female competitive shooters there for 3-gun than

23 there were, but part of that was back in the '90s

24 3-gun didn't really exist and, quite honestly,

20 items in language that's more relatable for them.

23 year?

24

Q Did there come a point in your career atRemington where you attended the SHOT Show every

A When I was made the director of military

Page 232 Page 230 1 women's involvement in that was very limited. It's 1 point, but I'm not privy or aware of those. 2 only later on that they became involved and they Q Okay. Last thing I want to ask you about 3 actually created divisions within the organization 3 is Remington after you left and what happened to 4 the brands there. So you left in the middle of 4 that sanctioned those events to allow them to 5 compete, and, you know, there's some female 5 2016, right? 6 shooters today that, you know, quite honestly, are A Yes. 7 very competitive with the male shooters. O And at that point Remington itself was Lena Miculek is one I think of. She 8 already tapering off production of MSRs, right? 9 is an outstanding shooter, and, you know, it stands A I don't agree with that. There was a 10 to reason, her father is one of the best that 10 very substantial MSR production activity in 11 there's ever been, especially with revolvers. So 11 Huntsville, Alabama. So I don't believe that 12 she has the genetics to do it well and she's had 12 that's necessarily a truthful statement. 13 the training throughout her life to do it well, and 13 What the quantities that were produced 14 there are many others as well. 14 from Huntsville for Remington I don't know, I don't 15 There are a lot of female shotgun 15 have that information, I don't have the sales 16 target shooters, skeet, trap, sporting clays, that 16 figures, but that kind of runs contrary to what I 17 do well. A lot of 3-gun shooters. A lot of women 17 understood. Again, I don't have catalogs from that 18 that compete now in, you know, they call it F-Class 18 time period to be able to say, hey, look, they took 19 shooting where it's shooting at a thousand yards at 19 it out. 20 20 targets and trying to shoot as small a group as you So when I left, I can speak up until 21 can. 21 that point in time, but post that I really don't 22 So that's been it. It's the 22 have the information available to offer you any 23 involvement of -- you know, more involvement of 23 opinion on it. 24 women and to a certain degree children as well 24 Q Okay. Does the Remington -- Strike that. Page 231 Page 233 Does Remington Defense still exist? 1 1 within the industry, but for the most part it's 2 2 been adults and it's been women. A I don't know. 3 Does Remington Arms still exist? Q Now, the SHOT Show is sponsored or 4 Remington Arms as a company that's called 4 organized by the National Shooting Sports 5 Foundation, right? 5 RemArms exists. They were located in both Ilion, 6 New York, and LaGrange, Georgia. The Ilion A That is correct. 7 facility as of March 3rd or 4th of this year was 7 Q Are you aware of any conditions that the 8 closed and production now solely takes place in 8 NSSF at any time placed on the display or sale of 9 MSRs at the SHOT Show? 9 LaGrange, Georgia, to my knowledge. 10 Q Who owns RemArms? 10 A I am not aware of any specific 11 A We'd have to go back and look through the 11 restrictions. There may have been some that 12 bankruptcy auction results. I believe it's a 12 predated me. My awareness with the SHOT Show and 13 company called Green Hill Capital or something to 13 the display requirements are more the generic ones 14 that effect, but I'm doing that from memory and I 14 with related to firearms. 15 haven't looked at that information in several 15 There is a group of individuals within 16 the NSSF that go to every booth and inspect every 16 years. So it's not something that's at the tip of 17 my tongue for recall. 17 firearm that's at the show to ensure that it's been 18 disabled so that it's impossible for it to fire. 18 Q And Remington went through bankruptcy 19 So somebody bringing ammunition in could grab a gun 19 twice, right? A Yes, it was twice. There was the first 20 20 off the shelf and it's not going to be potentially 21 time was I think in 2017, '18, again, I wasn't with 21 able to fire and hurt anybody. 22 the company so, no, there's not an indelible mark 22 With regard to restrictions beyond 23 that, those are generic for all firearms, I'm not 23 in my mind as to exactly when that was, and then 24 the second time was in 2020, I believe. 24 aware of any. There may have been some at some

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Page 236 Page 234 1 Q And what happened --1 towards debt service, Jim's opinion. So it was 2 2020. 2 that to kind of reorganize their debts and their Α 3 Q Sorry. What happened to Bushmaster? 3 ability to pay those and with the hope of being --4 A Bushmaster was sold to another company. 4 with the transition and reorganization that they'd 5 I think Bushmaster was sold to Franklin Armory. 5 be successful in being able to come out of that. 6 Again, same issue with recall on that particular Ultimately with the second bankruptcy 7 asset and who acquired it. I'd have to look at the 7 that happened that proved not to be the case, that 8 bankruptcy court proceedings to see who it was, but 8 they weren't able to recover, and I want to say for 9 as I recall it was Franklin Armory. If it wasn't 9 the second bankruptcy the amount of debt was 10 Franklin Armory, it was Palmetto State Armory. 10 approaching a billion dollars. The exact amount is So and then DPMS was purchased by the 11 certainly available in court records. In ballpark 12 other entity. So which is which, again, I'd have 12 numbers it was a lot of money. 13 to reference the paperwork from the bankruptcy 13 BY MS. HELFRICH: 14 court to give you a definitive answer. 14 Q Do you know where the debt came from? Q Are there still firearms produced under 15 The debt came from acquisitions of a lot 15 16 the Bushmaster brand? 16 of companies. There may have been some other 17 causes for it. Off the top of my head I don't A I believe there are. I've seen some 18 recently. It's nothing I've gone out and probed 18 know. 19 very hard, but I do seem to recall that they've had 19 You know, there were a ton of 20 some advertisements in some of the trade 20 acquisitions that took place and, you know, just, 21 publications I get, but, again, it's -- I wasn't 21 unfortunately, when the companies were acquired and 22 looking for it so it wasn't necessarily something I 22 brought in underneath the Remington umbrella the --23 was, you know, out to acquire the information never 23 they were unable to integrate things well and be 24 to forget. So... 24 able to turn the level of profit that they needed Page 235 Page 237 Q What about DPMS, are there still firearms 1 to with those companies after acquisition to make 1 2 sold under that brand? 2 their -- the debt incurred worthwhile and be able 3 to pay it off. A Yes, there are. I have seen those. As I 4 4 said, I believe Palmetto State bought DPMS or MS. HELFRICH: All right. That's all I 5 have today. 5 Franklin Armory, one of the two. Those two were Mr. Lothson, if you'd like to ask some 6 there, and who Bushmaster belongs to and who DPMS 6 7 questions it's your turn. 7 belongs to it's one of the two companies. I can 8 MR. LOTHSON: I would. 8 certainly find out if you'd like and let you know. 9 Q No, I just wanted to know if you knew. 9 **EXAMINATION** 10 BY MR. LOTHSON: 10 A Yep. I don't. 11 Q I'm going to share my screen. Q Okay. What is your understanding, if you 12 All right. My screen is being shared. 12 have one, of why Remington went into bankruptcy in 13 2017? 13 Jim, this is your report which I believe was marked 14 as Exhibit 1. I've highlighted a sentence here. 14 MR. LOTHSON: Objection, form, or 2018 15 There was some discussion before the lunch break 15 and this is a legal question anyway. So... 16 But, Jim, if you know, go ahead. This 16 regarding this sentence. It reads during my time 17 in the firearms --17 is after you left the company. 18 THE WITNESS: Yeah. As I understand it 18 A We're not seeing it. 19 MS. HELFRICH: We're not seeing it. 19 the company was carrying quite a bit of debt at 20 THE WITNESS: We're not seeing your 20 that point in time, in excess of I want to say 21 screen yet. 21 maybe \$500 million, it could have been more, and 22 BY MR. LOTHSON: 22 they used the initial bankruptcy there to get 23 better terms from their creditors because a lot of 23 Oh, I've got to hit share. 24 24 the profit that the company was making was going There you go.

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Page 238 Page 240 Q I'm showing you your report. 1 1 constructed and the type of MSRs that DPMS 2 Α Yes. 2 ultimately produced? 3 Q I've gone to page 2. I've highlighted a A During that time frame the DPMS Gen II 4 sentence that was the subject of discussion shortly 4 was being implemented into production, and the 5 before the lunch break. In this sentence it reads 5 resources required to generate that new model at 6 in full: During my time in the firearms industry, 6 DPMS supplemented with my engineers from the 7 demand and sales of commercial MSRs climbed 7 development team, it took time away from what they 8 markedly and steadily. 8 were able to produce. 9 Do you see that? There may have been other things going 10 A Yes. 10 on at the facility at that time that I wasn't aware 11 Q And then there was a scroll down and some 11 of because I was only working on new products. 12 discussion several pages later to the report -- or 12 There may have been availability issues, and there 13 the AFMER production volumes and some references 13 could have very well been just an overall downturn 14 specifically to DPMS, of which my cursor is now 14 in the market that hit DPMS particularly hard, but 15 highlighting. Do you see that? 15 it's such a -- a picture of a small spot of the 16 A Yes. 16 marketplace it's difficult to say that it is 17 Q And specifically you were questioned on 17 reflective of really what the whole total MSR --18 some of the DPMS numbers specifically at the years 18 commercial MSR market was. 19 2014 and 2015. Do you see that? 19 Q And do you have personal knowledge of 20 A I do. 20 Remington, the Remington brand MSRs, the R-15 and 21 Q Okay. Is DPMS production alone in any 21 the R-25? 22 particular year indicative of the Remington family 22 A Yes, I do. 23 of companies on the whole's MSR production for 23 Q And during your time at the company were 24 civilian sales? 24 tens of thousands of Remington MSRs sold to the Page 239 Page 241 A It may track to a certain degree with 1 1 civilian market? 2 Bushmaster and with Remington, but they're all A They were. They were, in fact, sold. 3 three independent brands that when they're on the 3 There were model line extensions. Sometimes that's 4 shelf at the gun store the gun consumer has the 4 as simple as a new camouflage pattern, in other 5 ability to take and make any one -- you know, 5 cases new hand guards. Sometimes it was the 6 choose which one to purchase. So a decrease in 6 addition of new calibers. 7 sales for DPMS doesn't necessarily correlate with a So there was a lot of work that took 8 complete reduction in quantity of MSRs produced by 8 place there, and there were a lot of sales which, 9 Remington/BFI Bushmaster/DPMS. 9 unfortunately, underneath the AFMER production And, you know, as I mentioned before 10 10 volumes are masked, hidden, commingled with the 11 several times, the data for Bushmaster got 11 other Remington products that were being made at 12 incorporated into Remington's data and you can't 12 that time. 13 disambiguate that. So when you add those three 13 Q Is it fair to say there were hundreds of 14 together, unfortunately, I don't have available 14 thousands of Remington brand MSRs sold during your 15 information for R-15s and R-25s to add, say, a 15 time at the company? 16 third column over there, but if we were able to do A During my time with the company, yeah, 17 that and then look at the total I think we'd 17 I'd say that hundreds of thousands is a fair 18 probably find that overall they were -- you know, 18 estimate. What each specific year was, again, it's 19 the trend was steady to growing, but, you know, 19 difficult to say, but that production area was 20 right now the DPMS data by itself would indicate 20 always very busy and, you know, they were knocking 21 that, you know, it's dropping off but let's say 21 out the product. 22 that's not the whole picture. 22 Q Let's talk about Bushmaster in the years

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23 2012 and onwards, for example. During your time at

24 the company did Bushmaster sell hundreds of

Q And with respect to DPMS specifically,

24 were there changes in the way DPMS's firearms were

Page 242 Page 244 1 thousands of Bushmaster brand rifles that were MSRs 1 hunting was one of the goals of a Gen II rifle? 2 to the civilian marketplace? A Yes. And the primary reason for it, it A Yes. Bushmaster was a very popular brand 3 was -- you know, the end use was hunting, but it 4 for modern sporting rifles, one of the most -- one 4 was a .308 capable AR modern sporting rifle design 5 of the largest producers, and, again, 5 that was in a smaller package than the existing 6 unfortunately, the data for their specific 6 AR-10s which fired the equivalent cartridge, fired 7 production numbers isn't readily available or 7 the same cartridge. So it gave the user a more 8 evident from, you know, the AFMER data. 8 compact package to work with. That function then Q Let's take, for example, the year 2013 9 operated as reliably as those did. 10 when DPMS sales were up to over 200,000 units. Q To some extent did the Remington brand of 11 Where would Bushmaster fall relative to DPMS? 11 MSRs compete with the Gen II DPMSs for marketplace 12 share? A You know, based on kind of above, you 13 look at there was very close tracking between DPMS 13 A They did. They did, along with the .308 14 offerings that Bushmaster had. 14 and Bushmaster in terms of their product volumes. 15 It would have been very nearly in that 15 Bushmaster didn't have a super 16 neighborhood, if not possibly even exceeding it. 16 extensive .308 lineup but they had some guns that 17 Again, acquisition of that exact number isn't 17 were offered there, and there was let's put it --18 possible given the way the data was tabulated. 18 cannibalization is not necessarily the right term, 19 Q Impossible by you, right? 19 but there was competition between all the brands 20 A Impossible by me. It certainly via FFL 20 that were resident or owned under one umbrella. 21 A&D records or something like that would be 21 It's the nature of the beast. Some people like 22 possible. I don't have access to that. I'm not 22 Ford, some people like Chevys, and some people like 23 sure who does or where those records exist today, 23 Dodges. You buy what you like. 24 but, yeah, it's beyond the scope of what I'm able 24 Sometimes something new comes out, you Page 243 Page 245 1 have a new Dodge Ram pickup truck, and all of a 1 to complete with the data I have available to me. Q So by the year, let's say, 2014, for 2 sudden sales kind of swing in that fashion. The 3 example, there were Bushmaster MSRs, there were 3 overall truck market probably doesn't change a ton, 4 DPMS MSRs, and there were Remington brand MSRs all 4 but, you know, the brand that's in favor benefits 5 being sold to the commercial marketplace, correct? 5 from, you know, the added sales that they get by 6 whatever feature set it is that they offer, whether A Yes. 7 it's better fuel economy, higher load capacity, 7 Okay. And in terms of a steadily growing 8 better aesthetics, whatever, you know, for the 8 market, were those three brands a part of that 9 marketplace? 9 truck analogy. 10 Q In terms of suitability of uses for the 10 A Yes. I would say that our production 11 products that you were involved in the manufacture 11 number trends and our production volumes were 12 and sale of, the DPMS line, the Remington line, and 12 similar to what the other manufacturers in the 13 the Bushmaster lines, all of them were suitable for 13 industry experienced. So when there was an uptrend we saw an 14 various uses; is that right? 15 A Yes. 15 increase in volume. When there was a downtrend, 16 which, you know, there have been a few through the 16 Q And that would include hunting and 17 course of that looking at the overall AFMER data, 17 sporting uses, correct? 18 we tracked with that, too. 18 A Hunting and sporting uses, sporting uses Q Let's talk about --19 specifically target shooting, as well as 19 20 self-defense uses. 20 A Go ahead. Q And that would be self and home defense Q On this point, DPMS and the Gen II, you 21 22 talked earlier about the Gen II itself being 22 uses; is that what you're saying? 23 modified -- or, excuse me, an expansion of the 23 A Yes. 24 In terms of the numbers that you 24 product line such it was focused on, for example,

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	Page 246		Dags 249
1	Page 246 discussed, and I'm still sharing my screen on	1	Page 248 produced other rifles, that data was not utilized
	Exhibit 2, page 4, the AFMER production volumes,		in calculating market share percentage just because
	when you had a chance to go back and look at the		you can't do the calculation. You can't figure it.
1	AFMER data, for example, in the Bushmaster totals		So
1	-	5	
	for the year of 2011 did you uncover any		
l _	typographical error there?		Remington's market share in your report?
7	, 8	7	A It's work that took place subsequent to
1	that. It should be 38,075 rather than 57. So,		the issuing of my report.
	again, the difference is, what, 12, 13, whatever	9	Q After the report, okay.
	the math is. I'm an engineer, I should be able to	10	And, again, your assertion today that
	do this, but it's been a long day.		Remington sold hundreds of thousands of MSRs, that
12	3 3		number is not in the report, correct?
	listed as 57 here, but by my recollection looking	13	A That number is not listed specifically in
	at the AFMER data last night it was actually		the report, but based on my knowledge of being
	38,075.		there at that time I believe that to be a true
16			statement.
1	questions I have at this time.	17	MS. HELFRICH: Okay. That's all I have.
18	3	18	Do you want to reserve?
1	follow-ups.	19	MR. LOTHSON: Yes.
20	FURTHER EXAMINATION	20	MS. HELFRICH: Okay. So that means,
	BY MS. HELFRICH:		Mr. Ronkainen, that Andy, your attorney, will get a
22	e ,		copy of the transcript and you'll have a chance to
	charge of product development for MSRs at		review the transcript and make sure that what you
24	Remington, Remington sold hundreds of thousands of	24	said was transcribed accurately. You can't change
	Page 247		Page 249
	MSRs in the commercial market, is that correct, am		your answer, but if what you said wasn't taken down
2	I restating your statement correctly?		correctly you can let the reporter know and she can
3			make the change.
1	200,000. Again, I don't have a way of coming up	4	THE WITNESS: Yeah. I'm familiar with
5	with the exact number, but it was a substantial		that process, and I'll do that.
6	quantity.	6	MS. HELFRICH: Okay. Well, I want to
7	Q What share of the MSR market was that; do		thank you for your time.
8	you know?	8	THE WITNESS: Thank you. Have yourself a
9	A I've done some preliminary analysis. It	9	
	was you know, historically when Remington	10	MS. HELFRICH: Thank you, and you, too.
	acquired DPMS and Bushmaster they held the lion's	11	And, June, thanks to you as well.
	share of the commercial MSR market, maybe in the	12	THE REPORTER: Sure.
	neighborhood of 40 percent, maybe even higher.	13	May I have transcript orders, please?
14	It's difficult to really say.	14	MS. HELFRICH: Let's just say we're off
15	With time and with the addition of		the record.
		16	(Whereupon the deposition was
16	competitors and different competitor offerings I		
16 17	think that the market share, even though the total	17	concluded at 4:05 p.m. ET.)
16 17 18	think that the market share, even though the total quantity increased, our market share percentage	17 18	
16 17 18 19	think that the market share, even though the total quantity increased, our market share percentage decreased from, say, 40 or so percent to begin with	17 18 19	
16 17 18 19 20	think that the market share, even though the total quantity increased, our market share percentage decreased from, say, 40 or so percent to begin with down into the 20 percent neighborhood, maybe even	17 18 19 20	
16 17 18 19 20	think that the market share, even though the total quantity increased, our market share percentage decreased from, say, 40 or so percent to begin with down into the 20 percent neighborhood, maybe even slightly lower than that.	17 18 19 20 21	
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	think that the market share, even though the total quantity increased, our market share percentage decreased from, say, 40 or so percent to begin with down into the 20 percent neighborhood, maybe even slightly lower than that.  Again, this is based on estimations	17 18 19 20 21 22	
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	think that the market share, even though the total quantity increased, our market share percentage decreased from, say, 40 or so percent to begin with down into the 20 percent neighborhood, maybe even slightly lower than that.	17 18 19 20 21	

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Page 250	Page 252 1 Veritext Legal Solutions
1 STATE OF ILLINOIS )	1100 Superior Ave
) SS.	2 Suite 1820 Cleveland, Ohio 44114
2 COUNTY OF K A N E )	3 Phone: 216-523-1313
The within and foregoing videoconference	4 August 20, 2024
4 deposition of the aforementioned witness was	5
5 reported remotely by JUNE M. STEARNS, CSR, RMR, and	To: Mr. Lothson
6 Notary Public, at the date and time aforementioned.	Case Name: Barnett, Caleb, Et Al. v. Raoul, Kwame, Et Al.
7 There were present via videoconference	7 Veritext Reference Number: 6831501
8 during the taking of the deposition the previously	8
9 named counsel.	Witness: James Ronkainen Deposition Date: 8/2/2024
The said witness was first duly sworn via	10 Dear Sir:
11 videoconference and was then examined upon oral	Enclosed please find a deposition transcript. Please have the witness
12 interrogatories; the questions and answers were	12
13 taken down in shorthand by the undersigned, acting	review the transcript and note any changes or corrections on the 13
14 as stenographer and Notary Public; and the within	included errata sheet, indicating the page, line number, change, and
15 and foregoing is a true, accurate and complete	14 the reason for the change. Have the witness' signature notarized and
16 record of all of the questions asked of and answers	the reason for the change. Frave the witness signature notarized and 15
17 made by the aforementioned witness, at the time and	forward the completed page(s) back to us at the Production address
18 place hereinabove referred to.	16 shown 17 above, or email to production-midwest@veritext.com.
19 The signature of the witness was not	18 If the errata is not returned within thirty days of your receipt of
20 waived, and the deposition was submitted, pursuant	19
21 to Rule 30(e) of the Rules of Civil Procedure for	this letter, the reading and signing will be deemed waived.
22 the United States District Courts, to the deponent	20 21 Sincerely,
23 per copy of the attached letter.	22 Production Department
24 The undersigned is not interested in the	23 24 NO NOTARY REQUIRED IN CA
Page 251  1 within case, nor of kin or counsel to any of the 2 parties. 3 Witness my official signature and seal as 4 Notary Public in and for Kane County, Illinois, on 5 the 20th day of August, A.D. 2024. 6 7 JUNE M. STEAKINS, CSR, RMR 8 Notary Public License No. 084-003024 9 One North Franklin Street, Suite 3000 Chicago, Illinois 60606 10 Phone: (312) 442-9087 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Page 253  I DEPOSITION REVIEW CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS  ASSIGNMENT REFERENCE NO: 6831501  CASE NAME: Barnett, Caleb, Et Al. v. Raoul, Kwame, Et Al. DATE OF DEPOSITION: 8/2/2024  WITNESS' NAME: James Ronkainen In accordance with the Rules of Civil Procedure, I have read the entire transcript of my testimony or it has been read to me. I have made no changes to the testimony as transcribed by the court reporter.  Date James Ronkainen Sworn to and subscribed before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County, the referenced witness did personally appear and acknowledge that:  They have read the transcript; They signed the foregoing Sworn Statement; and Their execution of this Statement is of their free act and deed.  I have affixed my name and official seal  this day of
20	
21	20 21
	20

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1	DEPOSITION REVIEW	1 ugc 254
2	CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS	
	ASSIGNMENT REFERENCE NO: 6831501	
3	CASE NAME: Barnett, Caleb, Et Al. v. Raoul, Kwame, Et Al. DATE OF DEPOSITION: 8/2/2024	
4	WITNESS' NAME: James Ronkainen	
5	In accordance with the Rules of Civil Procedure, I have read the entire transcript of	
6	my testimony or it has been read to me.	
7	I have listed my changes on the attached Errata Sheet, listing page and line numbers as	
8	well as the reason(s) for the change(s).	
9	I request that these changes be entered	
10	as part of the record of my testimony.	
11	I have executed the Errata Sheet, as well	
11	as this Certificate, and request and authorize that both be appended to the transcript of my	
12	testimony and be incorporated therein.	
13	Date James Ronkainen	
14		
15	Sworn to and subscribed before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County,	
	the referenced witness did personally appear	
16 17	and acknowledge that: They have read the transcript;	
	They have listed all of their corrections	
18	in the appended Errata Sheet;	
19	They signed the foregoing Sworn Statement; and	
	Their execution of this Statement is of	
20 21	their free act and deed.  I have affixed my name and official seal	
22	this day of, 20	
23	Notary Public	
24	·y	
25	Commission Expiration Date	
23	Commission Expiration Date	_
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## Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 30

- (e) Review By the Witness; Changes.
- (1) Review; Statement of Changes. On request by the deponent or a party before the deposition is completed, the deponent must be allowed 30 days after being notified by the officer that the transcript or recording is available in which:
- (A) to review the transcript or recording; and
- (B) if there are changes in form or substance, to sign a statement listing the changes and the reasons for making them.
- (2) Changes Indicated in the Officer's Certificate. The officer must note in the certificate prescribed by Rule 30(f)(1) whether a review was requested and, if so, must attach any changes the deponent makes during the 30-day period.

DISCLAIMER: THE FOREGOING FEDERAL PROCEDURE RULES

ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

THE ABOVE RULES ARE CURRENT AS OF APRIL 1,

2019. PLEASE REFER TO THE APPLICABLE FEDERAL RULES

OF CIVIL PROCEDURE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

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Veritext Legal Solutions represents that the foregoing transcript is a true, correct and complete transcript of the colloquies, questions and answers as submitted by the court reporter. Veritext Legal Solutions further represents that the attached exhibits, if any, are true, correct and complete documents as submitted by the court reporter and/or attorneys in relation to this deposition and that the documents were processed in accordance with our litigation support and production standards.

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Page 254 7 DEPOSITION REVIEW CERTIFICATION OF WITNESS 2 ASSIGNMENT REFERENCE NO: 6831501 3 CASE NAME: Barnett, Caleb, Et Al. v. Raoul, Kwame, Et Al. DATE OF DEPOSITION: 8/2/2024 WITNESS' NAME: James Ronkainen 4 5 In accordance with the Rules of Civil Procedure, I have read the entire transcript of my testimony or it has been read to me. 6 7 I have listed my changes on the attached Errata Sheet, listing page and line numbers as 8 well as the reason(s) for the change(s). 9 I request that these changes be entered as part of the record of my testimony. 10 I have executed the Errata Sheet, as well as this Certificate, and request and authorize 11 that both be appended to the transcript of my testimony and be incorporated ti 12 13 Date James Ronkainen 14 Sworn to and subscribed before me, a 15 Notary Public in and for the State and County, the referenced witness did personally appear 16 and acknowledge that: They have read the transcript; 17 They have listed all of their corrections 18 in the appended Errata Sheet; They signed the foregoing Sworn 19 Statement; and Their execution of this Statement is of their free act and deed. 20 I have affixed my name and official seal 21 30 day of 22 23 Notary Public 24 25 Commission Expiration Date

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### ASSIGNMENT NO: 6831501

#### **ERRATA SHEET**

Page	Line	Changes	Reason
71	10, 13	"FedBizzOpps" should be "FedBizOpps"	Transcription error
76	1	"they may not have always been" should be	Transcription error
		"there may not have always been"	
76	23	"all the mill standards" should be "all the MIL	Transcription error
		standards"	
85	18	"Remingtons" should be "Remington"	Transcription error
93	21	"Had the opportunity" should be "I had the	Transcription error
		opportunity"	
93	23-24	"and I get a hunting license" should be "and get	Transcription error
		a hunting license"	
95	19	"Clayton, Dubilier & Rice they had" should be	Transcription error
		"Clayton, Dubilier & Rice, they had"	
97	4	"moved Bushmaster and Remington" should be	Transcription error
		"they moved Bushmaster and Remington"	
98	17	"side, we're the ones that were" should be "side,	Transcription error
		were the ones that were"	
118	11	"correction of the math there" should be	Transcription error
		"correction of the math error"	
134	5	"Arrow Precision" should be "Aero Precision"	Transcription error
136	15	"An exact number you would be" should be "An	Transcription error
		exact number - you would be"	
138	1	"were in the marketplace I" should be "were in	Transcription error
		the marketplace, I"	
146	7-8	"if a bullet is in the 243-thousandths diameter"	Transcription error
		should be "if a bullet is 243-thousandths in	
		diameter,"	
146	9	"which the actual dimensions" should be	Transcription error
		"which is the actual diameter"	
146	12	"where it's neck down" should be "where it's	Transcription error
		necked down"	
146	23	"of handling .308s but" should be "of handling	Transcription error
	***************************************	.308s, but"	
148	12	"AR-15, for instance, as" should be "AR-15. For	Transcription error
		instance, as"	
148	17	shooting .204 Rugers." should be "shooting .204	Transcription error
		Ruger."	
149	2	"inside of the bullet" should be "inside of the	Transcription error
		bolt"	
151	2	"what .223 Remingtons are." should be "what .223	Transcription error
		Remington's are."	
151	18	"gives it a launch-up," should be "gives it a	Transcription error
		launch upward,"	
152	9	"what that is if a" should be "what that is. If a"	Transcription error
159	9	ceased production when that was." should be	Transcription error
		"ceased production, when that was."	

# Case 3:23-cv-00209-SPM Document 232-12 Filed 09/13/24 Page 149 of 150 Page ID VERITEXT LEGAL SOLUTIONS MIDWEST

#### ERITEXT LEGAL #16613 ASSIGNMENT NO: 6831501 ERRATA SHEET

	1	ERRAIA SHEET	
163	11	"where the bullet are held" should be "where the bullets are held"	Transcription error
166	10	"come back to the action." should be "come back into the action."	Transcription error
177	1	"they called their lefty." should be "they called their Lefty."	Transcription error
177	2	"seen the DPMS lefty version," should be "seen the DPMS Lefty version,"	Transcription error
186	8	"Those it helps" should be "For those it helps"	Transcription error
186	16	"in minutes of angle," should be "in minute of angle,"	Transcription error
190	4	"the SAAMI abuse test," should be "the SAAMI abuse tests,"	Transcription error
191	12	"actually a prime cartridge" should be "actually a primed cartridge"	Transcription error
191	23	"a prime cartridge" should be "a primed cartridge"	Transcription error
194	18	"MSR that you're selling, just" should be "MSR that you're selling. Just"	Transcription error
195	17	"We use that on" should be "We used that on"	Transcription error
195	18	"so the ACR rifles we're" should be "so the ACR rifles were"	Transcription error
195	22	"technology that they use," should be "technology that they used,"	Transcription error
206	23	"machinery required to that," should be" machinery required to do that,"	Transcription error
207	2	"riffling" should be "rifling"	Transcription error
217	3	"a sample of the rifle," should be "a sample of the rifles,"	Transcription error
220	11	"actually conform to" should be "actually conformed to"	Transcription error
221	16	"understanding, may not" should be "understanding that may not"	Transcription error
223	21-22	"suffering available or happening there." should be "suffering happening there."	Transcription error
224	14-15	"The SHOT Show is a sporting and hunting and outdoor trade show." should be "The SHOT Show is a Sporting and Hunting and Outdoor Trade show."	Transcription error
228	5-6	"a solicitation for it was a government program that was" should be "a solicitation - it was a government program - that was"	Transcription error
244	7-10	"So it gave the user a more compact package to work with. That function then operated as reliably as those did." should be "So it gave the user a more compact package to work with that functioned and operated as reliably as those did."	Transcription error

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VERITEXT LEGAL#36614ONS MIDWEST ASSIGNMENT NO: 6831501 ERRATA SHEET

8/30/2024

Date

James Ronkainen

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS

DAY OF ALLAL

Notary Públic

5.18.24

**Commission Expiration Date**